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March 20, 2018

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RE: Proposed 2018 Collection of Smallmouth Bass in the Willamette River for Portland Harbor Pre-Remedial Design Investigation (PDI) and Baseline Sampling Studies

Dear Ms. McGrath and Mr. Rule:

This letter has been prepared to notify you of two upcoming smallmouth bass (SMB) collection efforts in the Willamette River. The first collection effort is proposed for late April/early May 2018 to support implementation of a year-long fish tracking study. The second collection effort is proposed for August and September 2018 to conduct a fish tissue analysis study. Only SMB will be targeted during these studies; no federally listed salmonids will be collected. These studies comprise two of the eight US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved Portland Harbor Pre-Remedial Design Investigation (PDI) and Baseline Sampling Studies, which are a foundational step in what will be a multi-phase effort to update current conditions from the collection of data during the previous remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS).

The Portland Harbor Superfund Site Record of Decision (ROD) described a post-ROD sampling effort for the Superfund Site (Site or PHSS) located in Portland, Oregon, to delineate and better refine the sediment management area (SMA) footprints, refine the conceptual site model (CSM), determine baseline conditions, and support remedial design (EPA 2017a). In December 2017, Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. (Geosyntec), and AECOM Technical Services (AECOM) submitted a Work Plan for PDI Studies on behalf of a group of industrial parties called the Pre-Remedial Design Agreement and Order on Consent Investigation Group (Pre-RD AOC Group). On December 19, 2017, EPA entered into an Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (ASAOC) with the Pre-RD AOC Group to conduct the PDI studies at the Site (EPA 2017b). The ASAOC includes the Statement of Work (SOW) and the PDI Work Plan, which generally describe the field investigation activities, data analyses, schedule, and deliverables for the PDI. Since then, we have prepared draft field sampling plans for EPA review for all eight study activities, including the fish tracking study and fish tissue study. We expect that these field plans will be finalized soon.

The PDI Study Area (the Study Area) includes two sections of the Willamette River:

- 1. The Portland Harbor Superfund Site from River Mile [RM] 1.9 to RM 11.8.
- 2. The two upstream reaches from RM 11.8 to RM 28.4 which are collectively referred to as the Downtown/Upriver (D/U) Reach:
  - a. The Downtown Reach from RM 11.8 to RM 16.6
  - b. The Upriver Reach from RM 16.6 to RM 28.4

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), known also as "Superfund" Section 121(e)(1) and the National Contingency Plan 40 CFR, Section 300.400(e)(1) exempt the requirement for federal, state, or local permits for onsite response actions conducted pursuant to CERCLA. However, this exemption does not extend to the substantive requirements (EPA 1992, 1988). Although no permits are technically



required due to this CERCLA activity, in order to meet the substantive requirements, we will prepare an Oregon Scientific Taking Permit Application for each study in order to obtain Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Scientific Take Permits. The permit reporting process will allow ODFW to track the type and number of species captured during each study. These Oregon State permit applications will be submitted through the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Authorizations and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) website. We will follow the ODFW conditions and reporting requirements associated with these permits. The ASAOC states that all PDI activities must be completed by spring 2019; as such, we are working under an extremely accelerated time schedule to complete this project within the EPA-approved timeframe. If the project was not exempt from federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) permits, we would be unable to obtain either a Section 4(d) scientific research authorization or Section 10(a)(1)(A) scientific research permit due to the time-sensitive nature of these activities.

Below we have provided the Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs) for the proposed fish collection activities that are designed to meet ESA Section 4(d) requirements. These ARARs were implemented during previous 2011 and 2012 SMB collection activities in the Willamette River performed for the EPA and Lower Willamette Group. To minimize the unintentional catch of federally listed salmon and steelhead during the collection of SMB, the following conditions will be adhered to:

- (1) Only rod and reel angling will be conducted (no seining or electroshocking).
- (2) The field crew will include biologists who are trained and experienced with identifying ESA-listed species in the Willamette River.
- (3) If any ESA-listed species are caught during angling, all fishing efforts will stop in that sampling area and the field crew will move to a different sampling area. The listed fish will be returned to the water as quickly as possible and NMFS, ODFW, and EPA will be notified by email at the end of the sampling day.

Below we have summarized the proposed fish collection efforts associated with both studies. For more information, please refer to the draft field sampling plans that are attached to this memorandum. These plans will also be included with the ODFW scientific taking applications that will be submitted on the APPS website. The proposed angling methods, in conjunction with the minimization and conservation measures that will be implemented, will help avoid the potential risk of take of any ESA-listed salmonids in the Willamette River.

(1) Fish Tracking Study. The goal of this study is to improve the understanding of fish residency and exposure areas that affect the sediment-fish tissue relationship in the Superfund Site. The study focuses on SMB (versus other resident species) because of their abundance, more limited home range, extensive historical chemistry database, and importance in the Baseline Human Health Risk Assessment (BHHRA). The sampling design and approach are based on the current understanding of the river system and the target fish species; the specifications and capabilities of the acoustic telemetry equipment, which have been informed by a June 2017 pilot study; and the project-specific objectives.

A total of 34 HTI-Vemco VR2 acoustic receivers will be installed in the river as part of this study. The layout of the acoustic receiver array will be a combination of "gates" (designed to track fish presence/absence) and more closely spaced receiver positions designed to track fine-scale fish movement in specific areas of interest. A series of gates consisting of transects of two to three receivers will be installed at each river mile between RM 5 and RM 9 (Attachment A). These gates will track fish movement on a river mile scale in a section of the river that is representative of conditions and SMB habitat across the Site. Gates will also be installed at the Site boundaries (RM 1.9, RM 11.8, and the mouth of Multnomah Channel) and at three areas of interest: Willamette Cove (RM 6.8), Swan Island Lagoon (RM 8), and near the Cargill/Glacier terminals (RM 11.5E). The combination of RM and fine-scale acoustic tracking of SMB over the year-long study duration is expected to provide a robust and representative dataset for characterizing the seasonal movement and home range of SMB throughout the Site.

The study will involve the collection of approximately 40 SMB using hook-and-line methods, surgical implant of an acoustic tag, and subsequent release back to the river following a recovery period. The study is scheduled to begin on April 23, 2018 with the deployment of receivers; fish collection and tagging would



begin on April 30, 2018. These combined efforts would take place over a period of approximately two to three weeks. Fish collection will be prioritized in the vicinity of the three target areas (Willamette Cove, Swan Island Lagoon, and RM 11.5E), supplemented with fish collection in the RM 5 to RM 9 area as needed. Angling efforts will be focused on locations that were productive in prior sampling events. SMB greater than 228 millimeters (9 inches) will be targeted for the study. Fish collection activities will be performed on vessels provided by a subcontractor (Gravity Marine Services, supported by the Oregon Bass and Panfish Club). These boats will be equipped with aerated livewells in order to store/transport SMB between the collection site and the landside surgery station. All smaller-sized SMB or other fish incidentally captured will be immediately and safely returned back to the river.

Angling will be conducted using practices successfully used during the 2011 and 2012 SMB collection efforts. Competent and trained anglers will use a standard rod and reel with monofilament line (6-12 lb test). SMB can be caught with a variety of lures, depending on the desired sampling depth. Lead-weighted hooks with attached green-rubber tube jigs will be used to fish the bottom, while plastic crank baits resembling small fish or crayfish will be used to fish the shallower surface waters (zero to 4 meters). Electric trolling motors may be used to more accurately access specific SMB angling locations and enable the complete coverage of selected areas. Angling will be conducted primarily from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Although the lower Willamette River supports five federally threatened salmonids, the probability of take using the proposed angling techniques are very low. Hook and line fishing for SMB has been performed in the Willamette River in support of the Portland Harbor Superfund Site RI/FS in 2007, 2011, and 2012. We are not aware of any salmonids that were incidentally captured during any of these studies. Most recently in 2012, a total of 92 SMB were collected for tissue analysis over 20 days of fishing throughout the lower Willamette River (LWG 2012). Boat operation and angling assistance during the fish sampling were provided by the Oregon Bass & Panfish Club and The Bass Federation of Oregon. The Oregon Bass & Panfish Club will be assisting with the 2018 effort as well and are knowledgeable about collection techniques to minimize the inadvertent capture of salmonids. Once the 40 target-size SMB are captured and tagged, it is not anticipated that any further fish collection would be required for this study. Receivers will be checked monthly for operational status using a topside transponder and data downloads are scheduled to occur every three months. Telemetry equipment will be retrieved at the conclusion of the study in spring 2019.

(2) Fish Tissue Analysis Study. The focus of this sampling effort is the collection of whole body SMB throughout the Site and upstream of the Site to characterize current concentrations of ROD contaminants of concern (COCs). This study is targeting SMB because of their abundance, more limited home range, extensive historical chemistry database, and importance in the BHHRA. Fish tissue is one line of evidence for monitored natural recovery. The specific goals of the fish tissue sampling include the following: (1) characterize current levels of fish tissue COCs in resident SMB tissue on a site-wide basis and smaller spatial scale, (2) characterize upriver concentrations in fish tissue, (3) update statistically based evaluations of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) differences and changes in fish tissue concentrations, and (4) update and evaluate study area conditions to refine the CSM for all pathways consistent with the ROD.

The study sampling design is consistent with the most recent and approved 2012 SMB program, which included sampling and analysis of whole body specimens throughout the Site and a portion of the D/U Reach. The design includes collection of one specimen from each of 95 sampling locations within the Site, as well as 20 specimens from the Downtown Reach and 20 from the Upriver Reach (Attachment B). The target number of specimens within the Site is the same as the 2012 program. While a total of 135 SMB are targeted, the number collected will be to the extent sufficient numbers of fish are present in the summer/fall of 2018. Fish collection is expected to include two 10- to 12-day sessions: one session in August and one in September. At the end of the first sampling session, the SMB catch rate will be evaluated in consultation with EPA to determine if adjustments to the FSP are needed to achieve the target sample number. Consistent with the 2011 and 2012 sampling, SMB that are 225 to 355 mm in total length (approximately 9 to 14 inches) will be targeted. Specimens that do not meet the target size range will be released. SMB larger than 355 mm may be retained for archival at the selected laboratory for possible future analysis.



Sampling will be conducted using a two-boat team. Angling will be conducted using the same collection methods described above for the fish tracking study. Once caught, target-sized SMB will be handled using nitrile gloves, unhooked, weighed and measured, euthanized, and immediately wrapped in aluminum foil and placed into individual resealable plastic bags. The field crew will include experienced AECOM fisheries biologists who are trained and qualified to implement fish tissue collection, maintain field documentation, and ensure ARARs, as well as minimization and conservation measures are being properly implemented.

We appreciate the opportunity to notify you of these upcoming fish collection efforts. Angling efforts will not commence until an ODFW scientific taking permit is obtained for each study. Please let us know if you have any guestions or comments about either of the proposed studies. Thank you in advance for your consideration and cooperation.

#### References:

EPA. 1988. CERCLA Compliance with other Laws Manual, Interim Final. EPA/540/G-89/006. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Office of Emergency and Remedial Response.

EPA. 1992. Permits and Permit "Equivalency" Processes for CERCLA On-site Response Actions. OSWER Directive 9355.7-03. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

EPA. 2017a. Record of Decision Portland Harbor Superfund Site, Portland, Oregon. United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, Seattle, WA. January.

EPA. 2017b. Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent and Statement of Work for Pre-Remedial Design Investigation and Baseline Sampling. Agreement between EPA Region 10, Seattle Washington and the Pre-Remedial Design Group. CERCLA Docket No.10-2018-0236. December 19.

LWG. 2012. 2012 Smallmouth Bass Sampling for the Portland Harbor RI/FS. Letter from Bob Wyatt to Chip Humphrey (EPA). October 25, 2012

Yours sincerely,

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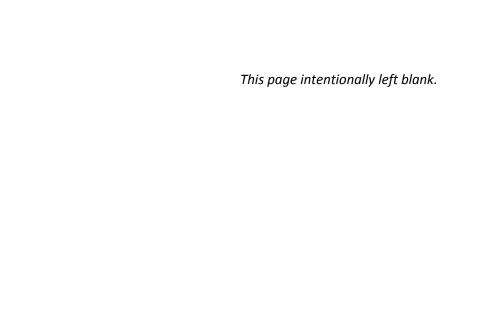
Jennifer Pretare (AECOM)

Attachment A. Draft Fish Tracking Study Plan

Attachment B. Draft Fish Tissue Analysis Study Plan

### **Attachment A**

**Draft Fish Tracking Study Plan** 





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January 18, 2018

Mr. Davis Zhen, Project Coordinator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 6th Avenue Seattle, Washington 98101

Subject: Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Pre-Remedial Design (Pre-RD) Investigation and Baseline Sampling

Fish Tracking Sampling Plan

**CERCLA Docket No. 10-2018-0236** 

Dear Mr. Zhen:

On behalf of the Pre-RD AOC Group, AECOM is pleased to submit the Fish Tracking Field Sampling Plan (FSP) in accordance with the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (ASAOC) for Pre-RD Investigation and Baseline Sampling.

The attached document describes the activities to be performed in compliance with the Statement of Work Section 3.1 "Scope of Pre-Remedial Design Investigation (PDI)" and Section 5.7(c) "Supporting Deliverables to PDI Work Plan" approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as part of the ASAOC.

We understand the EPA has 30 days to review the attached document. In the interest of expediting the project, we encourage a meeting to assist with a timely review and approval process.

Again, on behalf of the Pre-RD AOC Group, we are pleased to submit the referenced document and look forward to assisting in the review process.

Sincerely,

Kenneth M. Tyrrell

Gunston Tyull

AECOM Project Coordinator Executive Vice President

(281) 224-2793

Copies: Pre-RD AOC Group, Mr. Hans Feige

# **AGENCY REVIEW DRAFT**

# **Acoustic Fish Tracking Study Field Sampling Plan**

Portland Harbor Pre-Remedial Design Investigation and Baseline Sampling Portland Harbor Superfund Site

AECOM Project Number: 60554349 Geosyntec Project Number: PNG0767A

January 18, 2018

### Prepared for:

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, Washington 98101

On behalf of:

Portland Harbor Pre-RD AOC Group Portland, Oregon

Prepared by:



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#### **CERTIFICATION**

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

herwood Tyull	January 18, 2018
Kenneth M. Tyrrell	Date
PDI Project Coordinator	
AECOM Technical Services	

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#### ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AECOM Technical Services

ASAOC Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent

Ballard Marine Services

BHHRA baseline human health risk assessment

CERCLA Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and

Liability Act

COC contaminant of concern CSM Conceptual Site Model

DGPS differential global positioning system

DO dissolved oxygen

DQMP Data Quality Management Plan

DQO data quality objective

DSL [Oregon] Department of State Lands

DUO data use objective

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

FC Field Coordinator
FS feasibility study

FSP Field Sampling Plan

g gram

Geosyntec Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.
Gravity Gravity Marine Services,
ID identification number

kHz kilohertz km kilometer

LWG Lower Willamette Group

m meter

ODFW Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

PDI pre-remedial design investigation PHSS Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Pre-RD AOC Group Pre-Remedial Design Agreement and Order on Consent

**Investigation Group** 

QA quality assurance

QAPP quality assurance project plan

QC quality control

RI remedial investigation

RM river mile

ROD Record of Decision

Site Portland Harbor Superfund Site

SMB smallmouth bass SOW Statement of Work

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Record of Decision (ROD) described a post-ROD sampling effort for the Portland Harbor Superfund Site (Site or PHSS; Figure 1) located in Portland, Oregon, to delineate and better refine the sediment management area footprints, refine the Conceptual Site Model (CSM), determine baseline conditions, and support remedial design (United States Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] 2017a). Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. (Geosyntec), and AECOM Technical Services (AECOM) submitted a Work Plan for Pre-Remedial Design Investigations (PDI) on behalf of a group of industrial parties called the Pre-Remedial Design Agreement and Order on Consent Investigation Group (Pre-RD AOC Group). On December 19, 2017, EPA entered into an Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (ASAOC) with the Pre-RD AOC Group to conduct the PDI studies at the Site (EPA 2017b). The ASAOC includes the Statement of Work (SOW) and the PDI Work Plan (an attachment to the SOW), which generally describe the field investigation activities, data analyses, schedule, and deliverables for the PDI.

These PDI studies are a focused and foundational step in what will be a multi-phase effort to update current conditions from the collection of data during the remedial investigation (RI)/feasibility study (FS). The RI/FS was initiated by a group of potentially responsible parties known as the Lower Willamette Group (LWG) and completed by EPA in 2016 (EPA 2016a, 2016b). The RI consisted of three rounds of data collection, including surface and subsurface sediment, bank soils, surface water, sediment traps, porewater, fish tissue, and other media from 2001 through 2007.

This Field Sampling Plan (FSP) was prepared to support the acoustic fish tracking study outlined in the PDI Work Plan (Geosyntec 2017) and the project Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) (AECOM and Geosyntec 2018a).

### 1.1 Project Setting

The PHSS is located in Portland, Oregon, on the lower Willamette River immediately downstream of the urban downtown. The Site extends from river mile (RM) 1.9 upstream to RM 11.8 and covers 2,190 acres (Figure 1). There are two reaches located immediately upstream of the Site. The Downtown Reach, which includes the urbanized area of downtown Portland, is defined by EPA as extending from RM 11.8 to RM 16.6. EPA defines the Upriver Reach as extending from RM 16.6 to RM 28.4.

# 1.2 Project Overview

The RI included preparation of a baseline human health risk assessment (BHHRA), baseline ecological risk assessment, and food web model (Kennedy/Jenks 2013a; Windward Environmental 2013, 2015). The BHHRA identified several persistent lipophilic compounds, including polychlorinated biphenyls, as contaminants of concern (COC) based on their bioaccumulation into fish.

The PDI studies are designed to update the RI/FS dataset and characterize current conditions, refine the CSM for all pathways consistent with the ROD, and refine delineation of active remedial areas. In addition to updating sediment, surface water, and tissue chemistry data sets, the PDI scope of work includes a year-long acoustic fish tracking program to capture fine-scale temporal and spatial movement of Smallmouth Bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*; SMB) at the PHSS.

### 1.3 Study Objectives and Data Uses

The overall goal of the fish tracking study is to improve understanding of fish residency and exposure areas that affect the sediment-fish tissue relationship. The study focuses on SMB (versus other resident species) because of their abundance, more limited home range, extensive historical chemistry database, and importance in the BHHRA. The specific data quality objectives (DQOs) include the following:

- Monitor resident fish movement in the lower Willamette River over an approximately 1-year period to understand seasonal movement, habitat use/preference, and home range.
- Provide a monitoring network sufficient to characterize river mile and fine-scale movement of SMB and whether tagged fish leave the PHSS.
- Generate a dataset that supports reliable estimates of home range area and bank travel distance of SMB in the PHSS.

The results of the study will be used to inform the fish tissue sampling scheduled for late summer 2018 and support the analyses identified in the PDI Work Plan.

# 2. SAMPLING DESIGN AND APPROACH

The overall sampling design, rationale for approach, DQOs, and data use objectives (DUOs) are described in the PDI Work Plan. This FSP provides the additional details necessary to ensure that execution of the study will achieve the project-specific DQOs and DUOs set out in Section 1.2 of this FSP and Section 1.3 of the QAPP (AECOM and Geosyntec 2018). The sampling design and approach are based on the current understanding of the river system and the target fish species; the specifications and capabilities of the acoustic telemetry equipment, which have been informed by a June 2017 pilot study; and the project-specific DQOs and DUOs. This section of the FSP presents the basis of the study design, including the location and array of receivers and the targeted number of tagged fish. A sample size of 40 tagged fish has been selected for the PDI study. This number is sufficient to generate a robust dataset, even if some fish are lost over the course of the study. A summary of prior fish tracking studies in the PHSS is presented first for context, followed by details on the proposed 2018 fish tagging study.

### 2.1 Previous Studies

Two prior studies have been conducted in the PHSS that provide information useful for the design of the acoustic fish tracking study. A study conducted by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) in the lower Willamette River in early 2000s used radio tracking technology to track fish movement. In 2017, a pilot study evaluated the performance of acoustic telemetry systems in the river (AECOM 2017a). Radio tracking provides "opportunistic" measurements of fish location (e.g., weekly, bi-weekly) that are not highly refined. Acoustic tracking provides a more refined understanding of fish movement in time and space.

### 2.1.1 2000-2003 ODFW Radio Tracking Study

From 2000 to 2003, ODFW performed a radio tracking survey of four predator species in the lower Willamette River from RM 0 to ~RM 26 (Pribyl et al. 2005). A total of 73 fish were implanted with Lotek tags (battery life ranging from 238 to 439 days), including 8 walleye, 37 northern pikeminnow, 23 SMB, and 5 largemouth bass. Radio tracking was conducted by boat on an irregular basis, about 1 to 10 days per month from May 2000 to July 2003. A total of 53 of the 73 tagged fish were relocated during radio tracking at least once (i.e., location of tagged fish was recorded by the radio receiver), including 96% of the SMB. A total of 264 relocations were recorded over the survey period. Anglers captured four radio-tagged fish. Most tagged fish were relocated offshore (defined as greater than 10% of the measured channel width to either bank), often adjacent to a structure, such as pilings or floating structures. The distribution of radio-tagged fish across the river channel indicated a preference for areas within 20% of either shoreline. For SMB, the median total distance traveled (upstream and downstream movement) was 4.3 kilometers (km) (2.7 miles), and the 25th and 75th percentiles were 0.8 km (0.5 mile) and 8.0 km (5 miles).

### 2.1.2 2017 Acoustic Tracking Pilot Study

In June of 2017, an acoustic fish tracking pilot study was conducted to test the technical feasibility of acoustic tracking in the lower Willamette River environment and perform a side-by-side comparison of two different acoustic telemetry systems (HTI-Vemco and Lotek Wireless) (AECOM 2017a). The pilot study assessed and confirmed the technical feasibility of acoustic tracking in the lower Willamette River system. The experimental design involved deployment of a receiver array and fixed tags at two sites (Willamette Cove and RM 11.5 East [E]) where resident SMB had previously been caught. Each site has unique acoustic properties based on bathymetry, bottom sediment composition, anthropogenic alteration, and noise; Willamette Cove was a more quiescent location and RM 11.5E a more active location with regard to boat traffic. The pilot study design was developed with the input and assistance of Karl Gustavson of EPA's Office of Superfund Research and Technology Innovation.

Each array consisted of five autonomous receivers deployed in a pattern designed to optimize detection and two-dimensional positioning of acoustic transmissions (quadrilateral with a central node). The distances of the quadrilateral nodes were within the detection specifications of each vendor's equipment ( $\leq 150 \text{ meters } [\text{m}]$ ). A receiver from each vendor was installed on the same

mount that was securely moored such that the receiver was located about 1 m above the river bottom. Lotek tested their model WHS 4250 datalogger/receiver, which is a 416.7 kHz system. HTI-Vemco tested their model VR2 receiver which is a 180 kHz system. Three transmitters representing "tagged fish" were also deployed in stationary positions in optimal, less optimal, and sub-optimal locations relative to the receiver array. Lotek tested their JCART model 14-12 tag (combined acoustic and radio) and HTI-Vemco tested their V9 acoustic tag. All tags were set to a transmission interval of 3 seconds. The fixed receivers and transmitters were deployed for 1 week and then recovered. Tag transmission distance and positioning from the receiver array were also tested using mobile transmitters towed behind a vessel. Based on the transmission detections recorded during the pilot study, the detection efficiency and position efficiency and accuracy of each system was determined.

Overall, the detection efficiency and position efficiency and accuracy of the HTI-Vemco system was higher (AECOM 2017b).<sup>1</sup> Tag detection was recorded by the HTI-Vemco system at distances up to 400 m in Willamette Cove and 250 m in the noisier RM 11.5E area. Based on the pilot study, arrays with HTI-Vemco receivers spaced between 150 to 250 m (or more, depending on the site characteristics) are expected to provide reliable detection capability for fine-scale positioning of SMB. For detection only of tagged fish passing through a gate, receiver spacing of at least 200 m is expected to provide very high levels of detectability and trackability.

### 2.2 Rationale for Array Locations/Layout

The positioning of individual receivers is based on the physical configuration of the lower Willamette River, water depth (Figure 2), historical knowledge of contaminated areas at the Site, and the project objectives (Section 1.2). Lessons learned from the June 2017 pilot study also contributed to the design of the receiver array (AECOM 2017b). A total of 34 HTI-Vemco VR2 acoustic receivers will be installed in the river as part of this study. The layout of the acoustic receiver array will be a combination of "gates" (designed to track fish presence/absence) and more closely spaced receiver positions designed to track fine-scale fish movement in specific areas of interest.

A series of gates consisting of transects of two to three receivers will be installed at each river mile between RM 5 and RM 9 (Figure 3). These gates will track fish movement on a river mile scale in a section of the river that is representative of conditions and SMB habitat across the PHSS. Focusing on the four mile stretch in the central part of the Site also minimizes potential for tagged fish to leave the study area especially early on in the study. Gates will also be installed at the PHSS boundaries (RM 1.9, RM 11.8, and the mouth of Multnomah Channel) to track fish that enter or leave the study area. Three receivers will be deployed along each transect, except at RM 7, RM 8, and Multnomah Channel, where two receivers are expected to be sufficient due to the smaller river width, for a total of 21 receivers at the eight transects of gates. Based on the pilot study, the receivers within each transect will be spaced approximately 200 to 250 m apart.

Acoustic Fish Tracking Study Field Sampling Plan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> An equipment malfunction (SD card failure) in the Lotek receiver located in the central node of the Willamette Cove array compromised the detection capability of the Lotek system in this location.

To capture fine-scale fish movement, receiver arrays will also be installed in three areas of interest: Willamette Cove (RM 6.8 [four receivers]), Swan Island Lagoon (RM 8 [five receivers]), and near the Cargill/Glacier terminals (RM 11.5E [four receivers]). These three focused locations provide a range of SMB habitat and acoustic environments within the PHSS and represent areas of elevated COCs in sediment and SMB. The receiver layouts at the focused locations are shown on Figure 4 (Willamette Cove), Figure 5 (Swan Island Lagoon), and Figure 6 (RM 11.5E). Based on the pilot study, the receivers within each fine-scale array will be spaced approximately 150 to 200 m apart. The proposed receiver location coordinates are presented in Table 1 (final positioning will change based on the specific locations where receivers are deployed).

The combination of RM and fine-scale acoustic tracking of SMB over the year-long study duration (discussed in Section 2.6) is expected to provide a robust and representative dataset for characterizing the seasonal movement and home range of SMB throughout the PHSS.

### 2.3 Tagged Fish

The SMB has been selected as the species of interest for this study, as it is a prevalent, resident species with a smaller home range than other species included in the BHHRA (Kennedy/Jenks 2013a; Windward 2015). Further, a robust historical dataset on this species exists, making the SMB a good target for tissue monitoring (Section 2.1.1). A sample size of 40 tagged fish was selected for the PDI study. This number is sufficient to generate a robust dataset, even if some fish are lost over the course of the study. Consistent with the PDI SMB tissue study, SMB that are 225 to 355 millimeters in total length (approximately 9 to 14 inches) will be targeted, with a preference for larger specimens. To the extent practicable, the weight of the tag (in air) will be in the range of 2-5% of the total fish body weight, but not exceed 10% of the total body weight (Adams, et al 1998; Brown, et al, 1999). The HTI-Vemco model V9 tag, with a weight of 3.7 grams, will be used. Achieving a tag-fish weight ratio of less than 10% is not expected to pose a challenge based on the weight of SMB specimens caught during several prior sampling programs in the Study Area, as summarized in the table below.

Study		SMB Body Weight		
Study	Sample Size	Minimum (g)	Maximum (g)	Mean (g)
2012 SMB Study	92	85	660	350
2011 SMB Study	68	140	790	377
2007 RI Sampling for SMB	136	134	1035	344

# 2.4 Targeted Fishing Locations

Collection of fish for the study will be targeted between approximately RM 5 – RM 9 and within the three targeted areas (Willamette Cove, Swan Island Lagoon, and RM 11.5E). Maps from historical fish sampling efforts as well as institutional knowledge of the Oregon Bass and Panfish Club will help guide sampling efforts. Angling efforts will be focused on locations that were

productive in prior sampling events, as shown in Figure 7 (Integral 2008; GSI 2012; Kennedy/Jenks 2013b). It is anticipated that the fish collected for this effort will be representative of the resident population in the PHSS.

# 2.5 Sample Nomenclature

Both the acoustic receivers and the tagged fish will have a unique identifying sample identification number (ID) that includes the following, as described in the project-specific QAPP:

- Project phase (PDI)
- Sample matrix (AR [acoustic receiver] and AT [acoustic tagged fish])
- Sample type (A [acoustic receiver] and SMBT [tagged smallmouth bass]
- Unique, sequential station number (001 to ### per sample)

For example, acoustic receiver #32 would have the sample ID PDI-AR-A032, and the SMB implanted with tag #40 would have the sample ID PDI-AT-SMBT040.

### 2.6 Schedule

The fish tracking study is scheduled to begin in April 2018 with deployment of receivers and fish tagging to take place over a period of approximately two to three weeks. Receivers will be checked monthly for operational status using a topside transponder. Data downloads are scheduled for 3 months, 6 months, and at the conclusion of the study in late March/early April of 2019. It is anticipated that the results of the 3-month data download (July 2018) will be used to inform the SMB sampling program scheduled for August/September 2018. Telemetry equipment retrieval will take place at the conclusion of the study in spring 2019.

### 3. PROJECT ORGANIZATION/FIELD TEAM

# 3.1 Team Organization and Responsibilities

EPA is the lead agency overseeing the work. The EPA Project Manager is Mr. Davis Zhen. EPA will be assisted in the review of technical documents by an oversight contractor.

Team organization is presented in detail in the PDI Work Plan and in Section 2 of the QAPP. As it relates to this FSP, AECOM is coordinating activities, including management of all subcontractors, field sampling, analysis, and reporting scoping tasks.

The PDI Project Coordinator, Mr. Ken Tyrrell, and PDI Project Manager, Dr. Jennifer Pretare, Ph.D. (AECOM), will be responsible for overall project coordination and providing oversight on planning and coordination, work plans, all project deliverables, and performance of the

administrative tasks needed to ensure timely and successful completion of the project. Ms. Betsy Ruffle (AECOM) will serve as the senior technical lead for this study.

Ms. Nicky Moody (AECOM) and Mr. Keith Kroeger (Geosyntec) will be the Project Field Coordinators (FCs) and will be responsible for managing field activities and general field quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) oversight. The fish tracking task will be led by Mr. Ryan McCarthy (AECOM), who led the pilot study, with support from Mr. Steve Pagliughi, an AECOM senior fishery biologist with extensive experience with SMB and fish telemetry studies.

Ballard Marine Services (Ballard), of Washougal, Washington, will provide vessel support during the deployment of the acoustic moorings and monthly field checks, with Mr. Robert Stanton acting as the point of contact. Gravity Marine Services (Gravity), of Fall City, Washington, will provide vessel support during fish collection and tag implant, with Mr. Shawn Hinz acting as the point of contact. HTI-Vemco of Seattle, Washington, will provide telemetry support, including provision of telemetry equipment, supporting receiver deployment and tag implantation, and performing preliminary post-processing and data analysis. Mr. Sam Johnston will serve as the HTI-Vemco point of contact. Both Ballard and HTI-Vemco participated in the pilot study. Dr. Christa Woodley, Senior Aquatic Biologist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Engineer Research and Development Center, who also participated in the pilot study, will provide expert assistance and review.

### 3.2 Communication/Information Flow

The communication strategy is outlined in Section 2 of the QAPP. The FC will be the point of contact for field staff during the implementation of this FSP. Deviations from this FSP or the project-specific QAPP will be reported to the PDI Project Coordinator for consultation. Significant deviations from the FSP/QAPP will be further reported to representatives of the Pre-RD AOC Group and EPA.

#### 3.3 Coordination with EPA

The PDI Project Coordinator will notify the EPA Project Manager 1 week prior to beginning any field activities so that EPA can schedule any oversight activities required. The PDI Project Coordinator will also notify the EPA Project Manager once field activities have been completed.

### 4. FIELD WORK TASKS AND PROCEDURES

The following sections describe the procedures and methods that will be used during the acoustic fish tracking study. These procedures include receiver/mooring deployment, fish collection, tag implantation, data downloading, and mooring recovery activities, as well as recordkeeping and field quality control procedures. It is currently anticipated that this work will commence in April 2018 and will be 1 year in duration. All field work will be conducted in accordance with the project-specific Health and Safety Plan (AECOM and Geoysntec 2018b). Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) associated with the fish tracking program are provided in Appendix A.

### 4.1 Sampling Vessels and Equipment

Fish collection activities will be performed on vessels provided by a subcontractor (Gravity, supported by the Oregon Bass and Panfish Club). These boats will be equipped with aerated livewells in order to store/transport fish between the collection site and the landside surgery station (location to be determined pending site reconnaissance).

Receiver mooring deployment, data download, and recovery activities will be performed on research work vessels provided by Ballard. The vessels will provide a wide, stable platform and be equipped with a davit arm suitable for safely lifting and deploying heavy loads (e.g., 100 pounds). Monthly routine monitoring may be performed using smaller vessels, depending on availability and river conditions.

#### 4.2 Permits/Notifications

The study will involve the collection of approximately 40 SMB using hook-and-line methods, surgical implant of an acoustic tag, and subsequent release back to the river following a recovery period. All non-target sized SMB or other fish incidentally captured will be immediately and safely returned back to the river.

The lower Willamette River supports five federally threatened salmonid species that could be incidentally captured during hook-and-line fishing. Section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act directs the National Marine Fisheries Service to issue authorizations for scientific research projects that may result in incidental take (harm or harassment) of federally threatened species. The ODFW also requires a scientific taking permit to collect fish from the waters of the state for scientific purposes. However, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) 121(e)(1) and the National Contingency Plan (40 CFR 300.400(e)(1)) exempt the requirement for federal, state, or local permits for on-site response actions conducted pursuant to CERCLA. The AECOM PDI Project Coordinator and/or PDI Project Manager will coordinate with the EPA Project Manager to determine what permit equivalencies are required for this study.

# 4.3 Station Positioning/Navigation

The Ballard research vessel will navigate to each proposed mooring location using a differential global positioning system (DGPS) unit with an accuracy of 1 to 2 m. The DGPS accuracy will be confirmed each morning and evening to a known land-based survey point. Confirmed deployment locations will be recorded to the nearest whole international foot in North American Datum 1983 (NAD83), National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) 2007. Once the vessel has navigated to the proposed deployment location, the field team will visually confirm the location and surroundings against the proposed receiver array maps (Figures 3 through 6) prior to deployment. The locations depicted on the figures are approximate, as actual deployment locations will be dictated by conditions encountered in the field.

### 4.4 Acoustic System Components

The major components of the acoustic system are the HTI-Vemco Model HR2 receiver and the Model V9 tag (180 kHz). The internal clocks in receivers will all be synchronized to an external GPS receiver prior to deployment. The HTI-Vemco HR2 receivers are expected to have submeter positional accuracy.

The acoustic receivers will be mounted to fixed moorings placed on the bottom of the lower Willamette River (Figure 8). The bottom mounts will be fabricated prior to the commencement of the study. The mooring platforms will consist of a purpose-built metal frame that has been designed for easy deployment and retrieval of the system (Figure 9). A ground line will be attached as a backup in the event that an acoustic release fails or is damaged. If determined to be practical, the ten bottom mounts that were used for the 2017 Pilot Study may be reused for this study. These moorings will be outfitted with an acoustic release for periodic downloading and maintenance

In the three focus areas (Willamette Cove, Swan Island Lagoon, and RM 11.5E), the receivers in each array will be anchored to the bottom and have a tethered cable to shore, given the proximity to shore and assuming property access agreements are obtained. The final locations of the cabled receivers will be confirmed after a Site visit and final approval(s) of property access.

### 4.5 Mooring/Receiver Deployment

Receivers will be attached directly to the moorings and configured to have the receiver submerged approximately 1 m above the river bottom such that it will not be damaged by vessel traffic or impede navigation. Each mooring will have a submerged float, which will aid in retrieval. The on-deck davit on the research vessel will be used to hoist the mooring and gently place it on the river bottom. The receiver mount system was successfully used in the 2017 pilot study and was effective in terms of performance, security, and safe deployment/retrieval.

Once the receivers have been deployed, a test acoustic transmitter will be towed through the acoustic array to ensure that all receivers are functioning properly and demonstrate that no critical gaps in the field of detection are present. Additionally, the receiver moorings will be checked for tilt, to ensure that they are sitting flat on the river bottom and have not been deployed on a slope or fallen over. Receiver locations will be modified as needed in order to achieve the desired coverage and to optimize detection resolution in specific areas.

The location of each receiver will be surveyed using a DGPS when deployed. These station positions will be recorded on the pre-deployment checklist (included in Appendix B). Each time a receiver is recovered for download or replaced, the field team will resurvey the receiver's location.

#### 4.5.1 Monthly Field Checks

Acoustic receivers will be checked for presence, maintenance, and functionality approximately once every month. A Ballard vessel will be used for this task. The receiver's internal transponder allows for remote monitoring of tilt, temperature, battery level, available storage space, and noise levels, reducing the number of times the receiver needs to be hauled to the surface for operational checks and redeployed with new GPS coordinates. A surface communication deck box will be used for remote communications with the deployed receivers.

#### 4.5.2 Data Downloading

Acoustic receivers will be manually retrieved, and acoustic data from the receiver will be downloaded directly via USB cable to a field computer. The receivers will be evaluated for functionality and cleared of any biofouling growth. Acoustic receivers will also be visually examined for any obvious defects or necessary repairs, and batteries will be replaced. Data downloading will be performed at 3 months, 6 months, and at the conclusion of the study (12 months). Upon re-deployment, a new GPS station position will be recorded. Once the maintenance check has been performed and the data have been downloaded, the field team will proceed to the next acoustic receiver until all receivers have been visited. Once data has been retrieved, it will be managed according to the project Data Quality Management Plan (DQMP; AECOM and Geosyntec 2018c).

#### 4.5.3 Mooring/Receiver Recovery

At the conclusion of the study, all receiver/moorings will be collected from the river bottom. It is not anticipated that any equipment will be left behind. If the acoustic releases do not actuate, a grapple hook will attempt to snag the ground/back-up line attached to the receiver mooring.

### 4.6 Fish Collection and Tagging

#### 4.6.1 Fish Collection

Fish for acoustic tagging will be collected by hook-and-line angling techniques using artificial lures. Contract anglers from the Oregon Bass and Panfish Club will be employed to capture SMB. Each subcontracted angler vessel will be outfitted with a GPS to record capture locations and an onboard or side-mounted tank or "livewell" for transporting/holding caught SMB. A maximum of four SMB will permitted in a livewell at any given time. Each livewell will be filled with river water that is kept aerated, cleared of all potential snags, and cooled (if necessary). This will keep the fish alive after capture so the fish can be safely transported to the surgery station. Fish will be carefully handled and cared for prior to and after surgeries.

A fish collection datasheet (including GPS coordinates at capture location) will be filled out immediately after a candidate specimen is captured (sheets are presented in Appendix B). Each fish will be given a unique sample ID on the fish collection datasheet, and this number will be used to name the capture location point file. Sample identification nomenclature will follow the

guidelines detailed in Section 2.5 of this FSP and the SOPs in Appendix A. After a fish is surgically implanted with an acoustic tag at the surgery station (Section 4.6.2), the tag code and sample ID will be recorded on the fish collection datasheet in order to link the tag code to the collection location. Therefore, it will be necessary to be able to identify each captured individual between the time of capture and the time of acoustic tag implantation. Maximum total length, fork length, (in millimeters) and weight (in grams) will also be recorded on the fish collection datasheets immediately after capture to identify individuals. This approach will allow identification of individuals and eliminate having to mark or attach a numbered culling buoy to each individual, thus avoiding potential marking injuries that may affect post-release survival and behavior. Pre- and post-surgery livewells will also have unique IDs so the fish can be accurately tracked through the surgery and eventual release.

Landing nets will not be used to land fish in order to avoid potential injuries to captured fish and maintain tagging candidates in the best possible condition. Captured SMB having hooking or other injuries and/or displaying obvious abnormal behavior (e.g., sluggishness, erratic swimming) will be immediately released and will not be implanted with an acoustic tag. Abnormal behavior will be determined by the best professional judgement of the on-site fisheries biologists. If at any point abnormal behavior is observed, the fish will be sacrificed and the fish will be retained for potential chemical analysis (Section 4.6.4 below).

The fish collection standard operating procedure (SOP) is provided in Appendix A.

#### 4.6.2 Acoustic Tag Implantation

Surgical implantation will be performed by HTI-Vemco field biologists experienced in acoustic fish tag implantation procedures with assistance from AECOM biologists. A secure, land-based surgical station will be established prior to the commencement of the study and will be assembled and disassembled each day. The surgery station will be located in an upland area with ready access to the river. Holding pens/livewells will be on-site to retain fish prior to surgery, during recovery, and before release.

A portable electronarcosis system will be utilized by HTI-Vemco field biologists to anesthetize SMB during surgical implantation procedures. The electronarcosis system consists of a modified 153 liter marine cooler, fish cradle, and a variable power generation system. The electronarcosis system is based on designs described in Hudson et al. 2011. Prior to being placed in the electronarcosis system, each SMB will be photographed and have scales removed for age dating. Scales will be removed from the area posterior to the pectoral fin and slightly below the lateral line (DeVries and Frie 1996); scale samples will be placed in wax paper, and placed in a coin envelope with the sample date and associated sample identification number clearly written on the outside of the envelope.

Each SMB will be placed ventral side up in the cradle within the electronarcosis system with the anterior end of the fish pointed towards the anode. SMB will be submerged deep enough in the water to cover the gills. Multiple aquarium bubblers will provide and maintain adequate

dissolved oxygen (DO) levels during surgery. An on-site fisheries biologist will monitor DO levels in the livewells and will record this information on the datasheets. Maintaining the oxygen level near saturation in the surgery station livewell potentially results in higher blood oxygen levels during anesthesia which aids in post-surgery recovery (Itazawa and Takeda 1982). Using a DC power supply, voltage will be slowly increased until induction (surgical anesthesia) is achieved (Sladky et al. 2001; Coyle et al. 2004).

Prior to and after each surgery, acoustic tags, hemostats, sutures, and scalpels will be disinfected. Following a small incision in the midline area, a pre-programmed HTI-Vemco Model V9 acoustic tag will be activated and inserted through the incision and into the abdominal cavity. Each acoustic tag will be programmed with a unique code/number in order to identify the individual fish, and the acoustic tag code/number will be recorded on the fish collection datasheet. After tag insertion, the incision will be closed with two simple interrupted sutures. A small external tag (T-bar tag or equivalent) will be attached to the SMB just behind the dorsal fin, and the SMB will be removed from the electronarcosis system, placed in a well oxygenated recovery livewell, and carefully observed for post-surgery behavior. SMB should fully recover within 2 minutes after being removed from the electronarcosis system; each surgical procedure will take approximately 30 minutes.

The tag implant SOP is provided in Appendix A.

#### 4.6.3 Fish Recovery/Release

Tagged fish will be placed in an aerated recovery tank for at least 2 hours and up to 1 day prior to release to ensure that there are not any post-surgery complications or mortalities. Tagged fish that regain equilibrium and exhibit controlled movement will be released. To the extent practicable, fish will be released back into the river in the vicinity of where they were originally caught. The coordinates of the release location for each fish will be recorded on the field data sheet.

#### 4.6.4 Fish Mortality

To the extent practicable, every attempt will be made to prevent any inadvertent mortalities of SMB captured and/or tagged during the study. However in the event that a mortality does occur, the fish may be considered for tissue chemistry analysis as part of the baseline fish tissue sampling described in the Fish Tissue FSP. In this case, the individual fish will be wrapped in aluminum foil, labeled, and placed in a gallon-sized, zip top bag. Fish collected in this manner will be submitted to the project selected analytical laboratory for cold storage (+/- 4°C) until a decision can be made regarding analysis. The data necessary for including the fish as a future tissue chemistry sample (e.g., location captured, size, age, etc. per the Fish Tissue FSP) will be recorded in order to ensure that DQOs are met.

#### 4.7 Decontamination

The physical environment implantation surgeries are performed in is an important consideration that determines the quality and success of the procedure. The surgical environment will be

maintained in a sterile condition throughout all procedures. The surgical station will be intermittently cleaned and wiped down with a solution of disinfectant; reusable surgical instruments will be placed in a disinfectant bath before and after surgical procedures. Surgical instruments will be transferred to a freshwater rinse bath before surgery. All equipment used for capture, holding, anesthesia, surgery, recovery, and movement of fish during the project will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected to minimize the potential for any biological interferences.

### 4.8 Management of Investigation-Derived Waste

Fish collected but not retained for surgery will be returned to the lower Willamette River area from which they were collected or sacrificed and retained for potential chemical analysis. Water used for decontaminating the sample processing equipment will be collected and then returned to the lower Willamette River. Only biodegradable, phosphate free detergents will be used for decontamination (e.g., Liquinox®). Other consumables such as disposable sampling equipment, fish surgical tools, and gloves will be bagged for disposal and managed as a solid waste and discarded as general municipal waste. A disposable sharps container will be on-site for safe collection/disposal of any sharps waste.

### 5. DATA MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

All data management will be performed according to the QAPP and DQMP.

### 5.1 Field Documentation and Reporting

A bound field logbook will be assigned to and maintained by AECOM field team members to provide daily records of significant events, observations, and measurements during the field effort. Each page will be numbered, signed, and dated. These logbooks will be kept as permanent records. Complete field record keeping details can be found in the project QAPP (AECOM and Geosyntec 2018).

A brief activity log will be filed with the FC at the completion of each working day. This log will summarize the work activities undertaken/completed each day, progress, personnel on-site, hours worked, health and safety concerns, and any technical issues encountered. Field logbooks and field data sheets completed during fish collection and implantation activities will be scanned and emailed to the Technical Lead at the conclusion of each working day (or as soon as practically possible).

# 5.2 Data Processing

The fish tracking data collected from the acoustic receivers during the study will be provided in raw and data-processed formats. The data will be compiled and processed using HTI's software (Acoustic Tag Software Suite and MarkTags) in order to identify valid tag returns within the raw data. The valid detections will then be compiled into a single detection history for each fish. This detection history will be further processed to identify false/erroneous events to remove spurious

data points. Once the data are processed and proofed, the data will be used to create fish tracks/positions (where possible). The gated portion of the system can only provide a presence/absence data point and indicate whether a fish was within the receiver detection range. The post-processed data sets from the high-resolution and gated receivers will be combined and imported into a Microsoft Access database.

### 5.3 Quality Review

A series of QA/QC steps will be implemented to ensure data integrity. Monthly checks of the receiver network will be performed to ensure system functionality and proper data collection. The data will be processed on HTI's software (Acoustic Tag Software Suite and MarkTags) to evaluate the data for accuracy/usability. If problems with the systems are detected/identified during the monthly checks, they will be corrected using remote access to the collection equipment, or field crews will be dispatched as soon as possible to visit the site and correct the problems.

### 5.4 Reporting Frequency

Brief field summary reports will be provided to EPA following the 3-, 6-, and 12-month data downloads. Equipment specifications including system and tag operating parameters, calibrations, and results of pre-installation testing will be included in the summary reports. Methods, analyses, and results for all testing procedures including establishing range and efficiency calculations will be documented and presented in standard scientific reporting format.

The overall results of the study will be discussed and presented in a final report that will specifically address the key questions identified in the study objectives in Section 1.2, identify plan deviations, and summarize field collection activities.

#### 5.5 Plan Deviations

Deviations to this FSP potentially include the monitoring of alternate stations or scope reductions/enhancements related to site conditions or real-time information. Safety will be given the highest priority in all aspects, and the Field Coordinator will be responsible for documenting all plan deviations and contacting the Project Technical Lead or PDI Project Manager to discuss these at the earliest convenience, preferably before deviations are undertaken, if possible.

# 5.6 Data Management and Retention

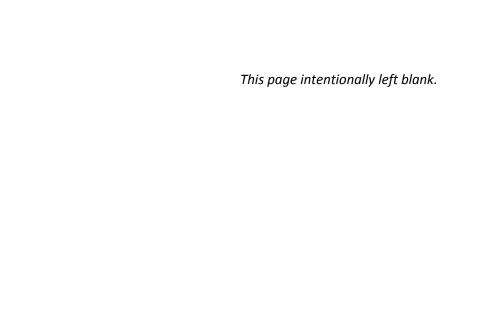
All related documentation is to be maintained in the project file either in electronic or hardcopy form. All hardcopy records will be maintained in the project file; all electronic records will be maintained in project-specific directories within AECOM's network and a final Electronic Data Deliverable will be provided to EPA at the conclusion of the PDI study.

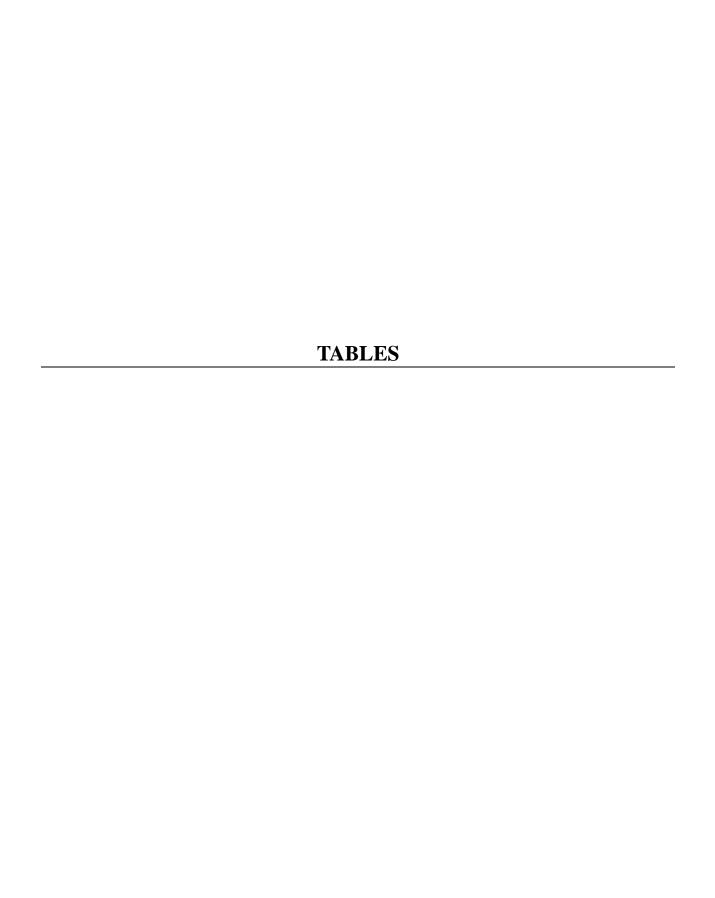
### 6. **REFERENCES**

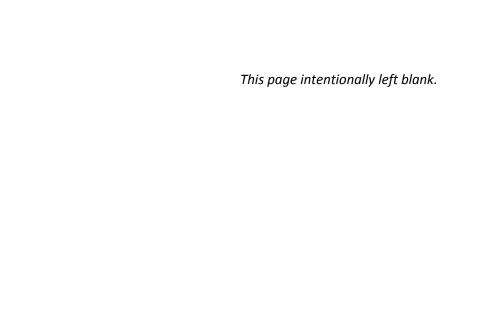
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**Table 1. Coordinates of Proposed Receiver Locations** 

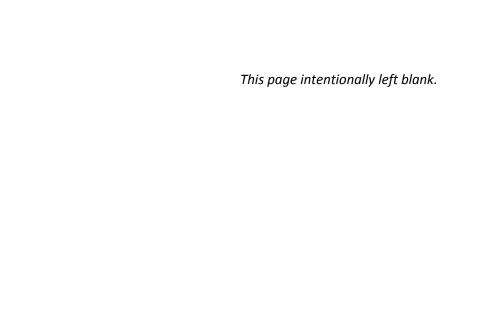
	Proposed Location Coordinates (NAD 1983, Intl Feet) <sup>a</sup>		
Receiver ID	Easting	Northing	
PDI-AR-A01	7617785	725573	
PDI-AR-A02	7617159	725997	
PDI-AR-A03	7616627	726410	
PDI-AR-A04	7613373	720491	
PDI-AR-A05	7613329	720241	
PDI-AR-A06	7620316	711291	
PDI-AR-A07	7619786	710986	
PDI-AR-A08	7619351	710760	
PDI-AR-A09	7623346	707348	
PDI-AR-A10	7622976	706944	
PDI-AR-A11	7622675	706598	
PDI-AR-A12	7626823	705692	
PDI-AR-A13	7626771	705455	
PDI-AR-A14	7627349	705607	
PDI-AR-A15	7627114	705360	
PDI-AR-A16	7627510	704330	
PDI-AR-A17	7627033	703825	
PDI-AR-A18	7631922	701400	
PDI-AR-A19	7631107	700551	
PDI-AR-A20	7630513	699906	
PDI-AR-A21	7632710	701760	
PDI-AR-A22	7633412	701735	
PDI-AR-A23	7633178	701324	
PDI-AR-A24	7633956	701070	
PDI-AR-A25	7635076	697378	
PDI-AR-A26	7634788	696950	
PDI-AR-A27	7634459	696383	
PDI-AR-A28	7644382	688077	
PDI-AR-A29	7644821	688359	
PDI-AR-A30	7645142	687911	
PDI-AR-A31	7644791	687638	
PDI-AR-A32	7645511	687193	
PDI-AR-A33	7645322	687027	
PDI-AR-A34	7645129	686858	

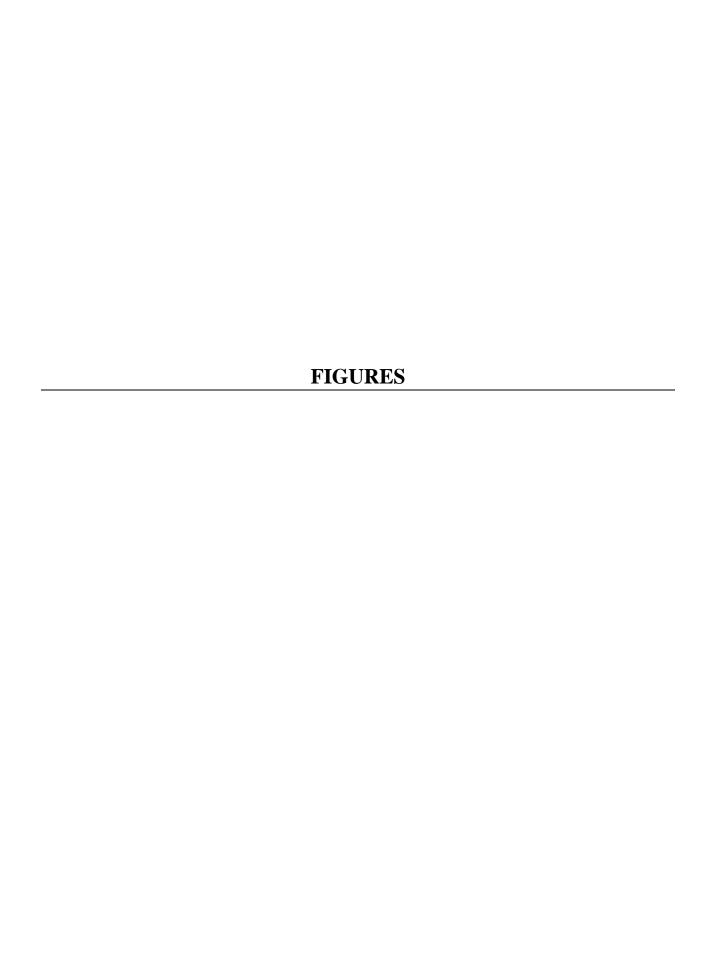
#### Notes:

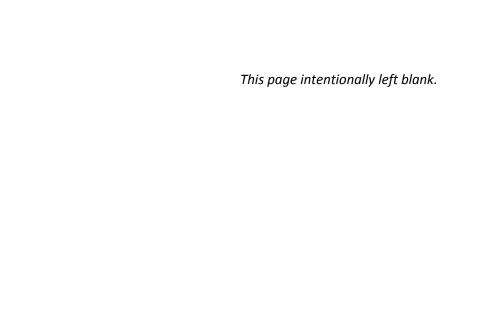
a) Horizontal Projection: NAD 1983 Oregon State Plane North (Intl Feet)

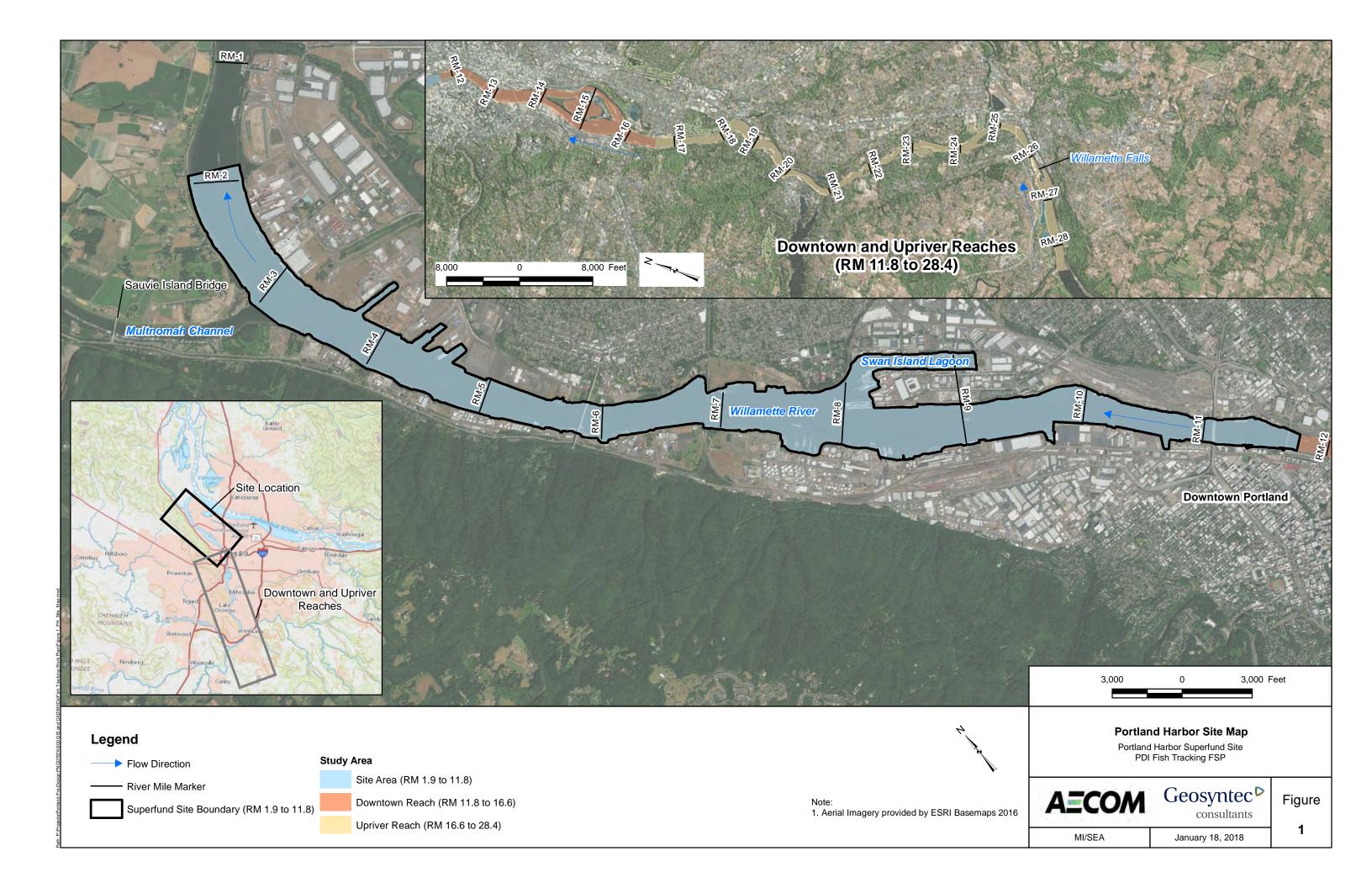
### Acronyms:

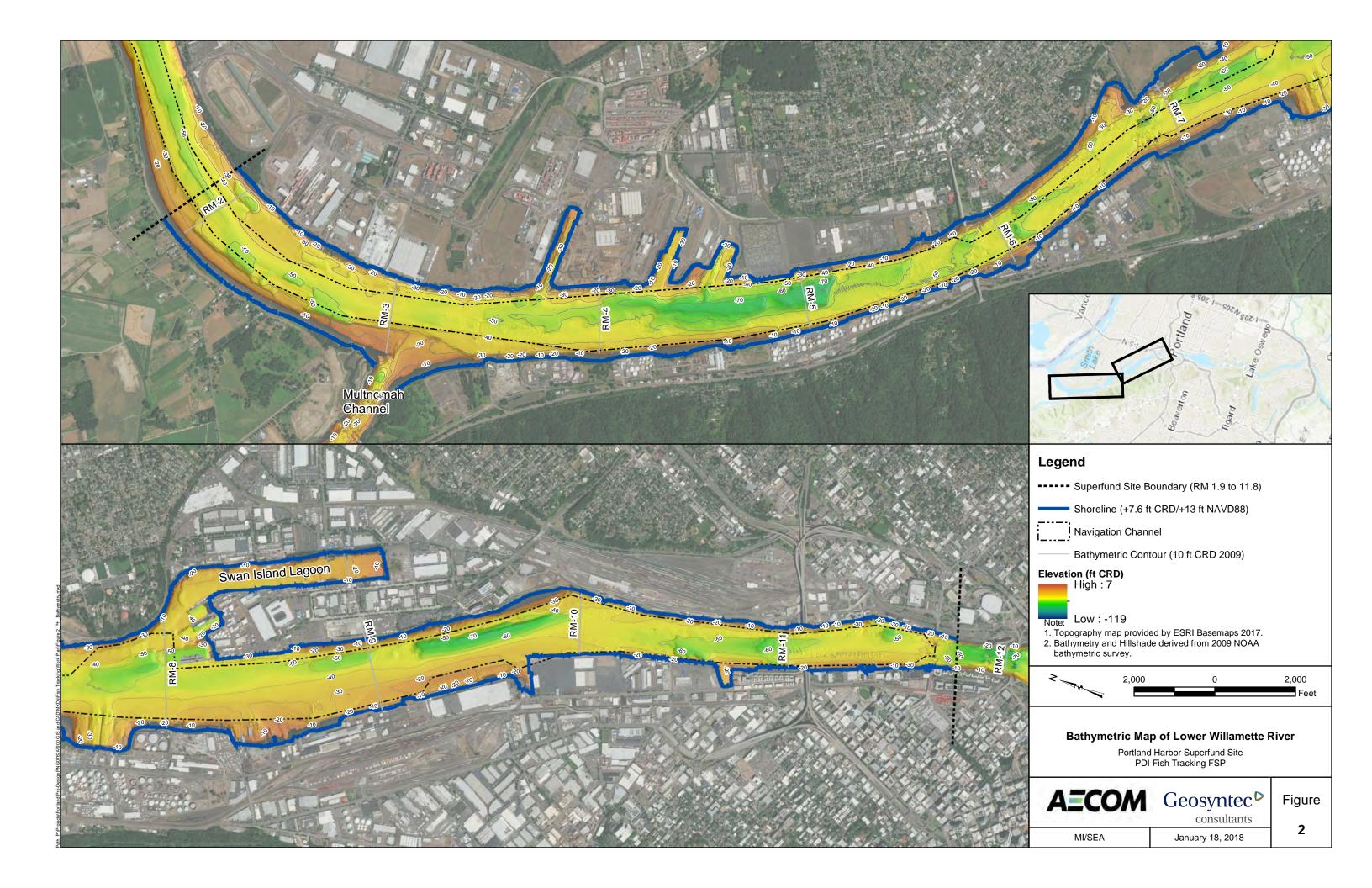
ID = identification number NAD = North American Datum

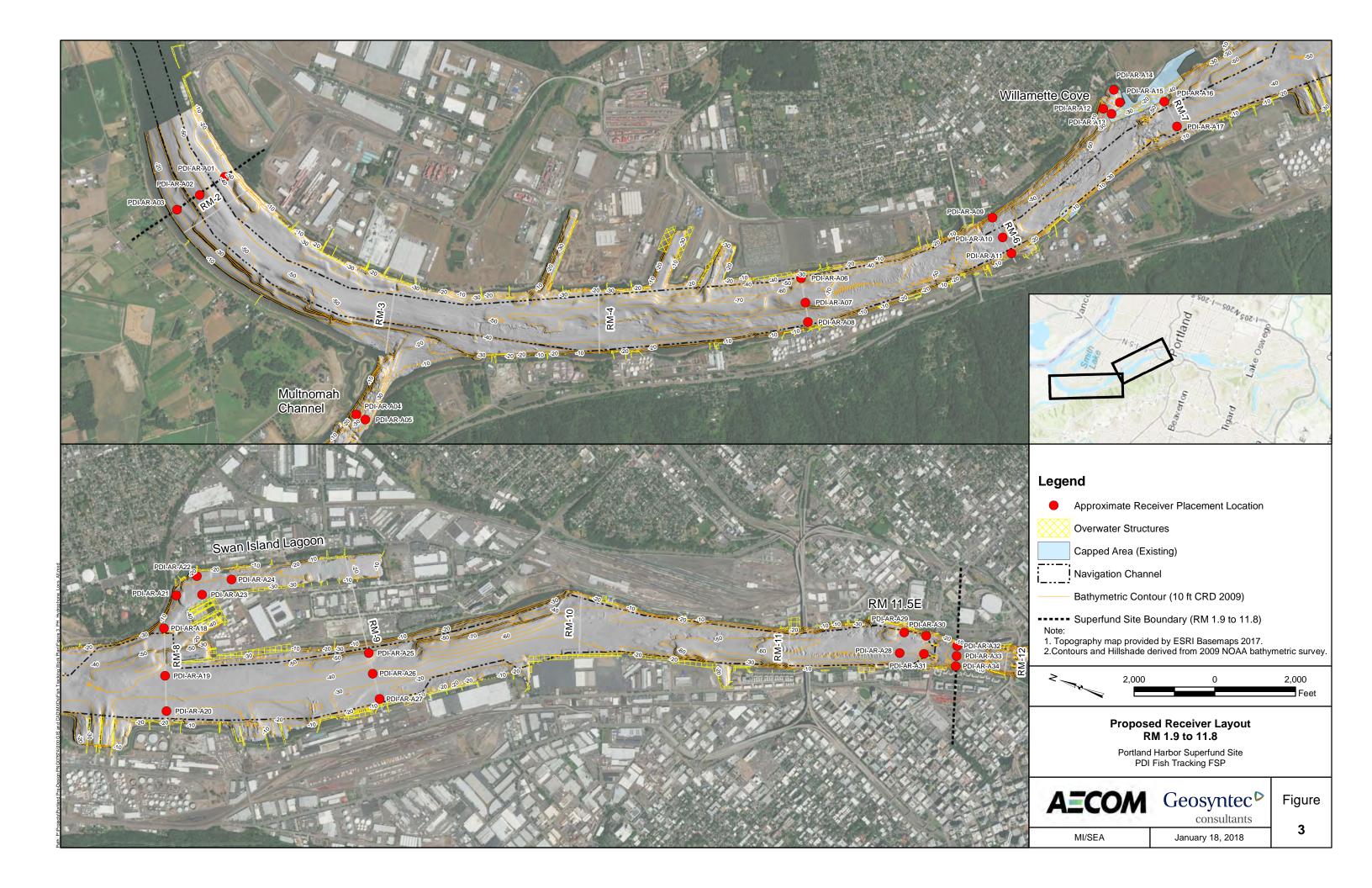


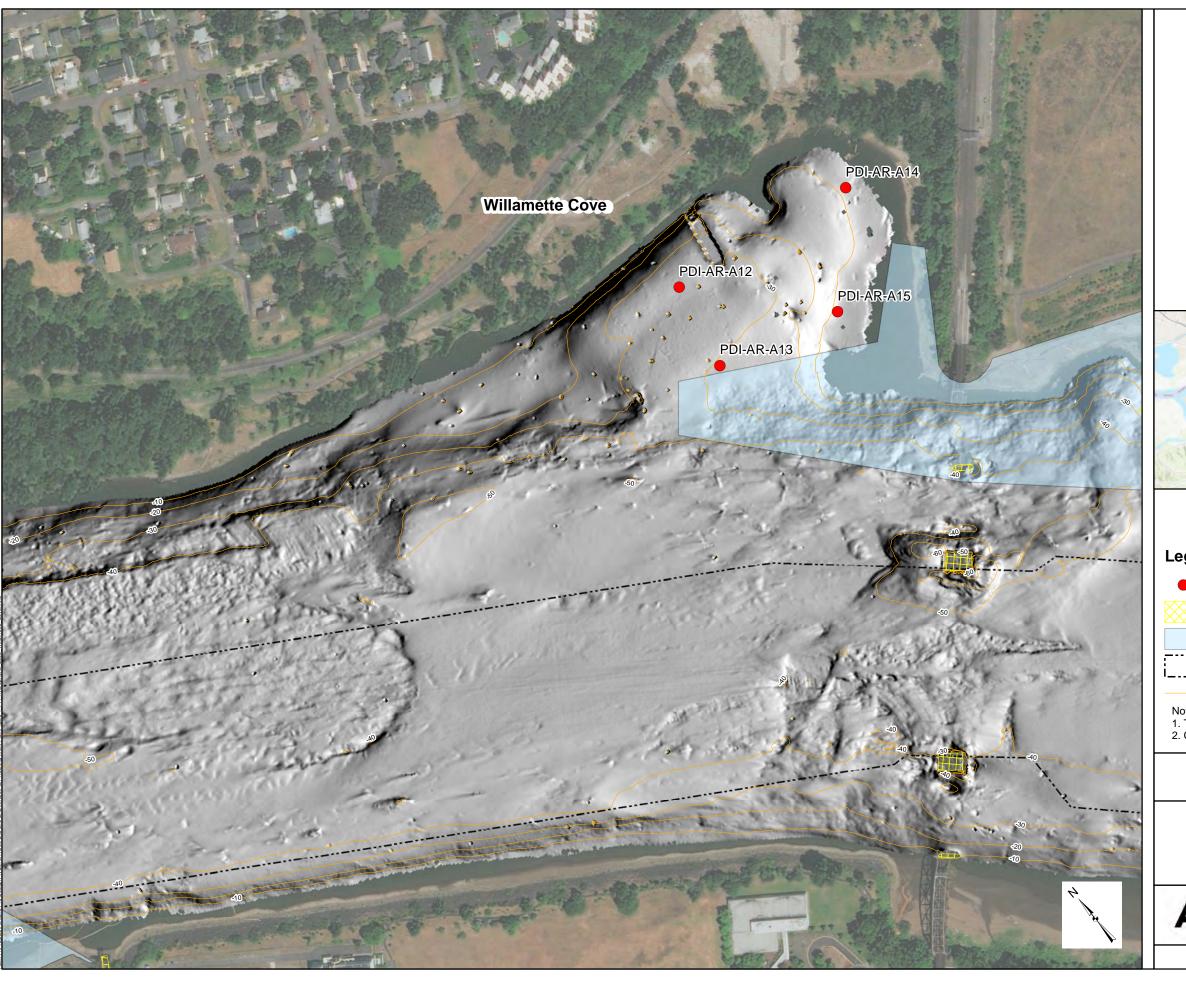














Approximate Receiver Placement Location

Overwater Structures

Capped Area (Existing) Navigation Channel

Bathymetric Contour (10 ft CRD 2009)

- Topography map provided by ESRI Basemaps 2017.
   Contours and Hillshade derived from 2009 NOAA bathymetric survey.



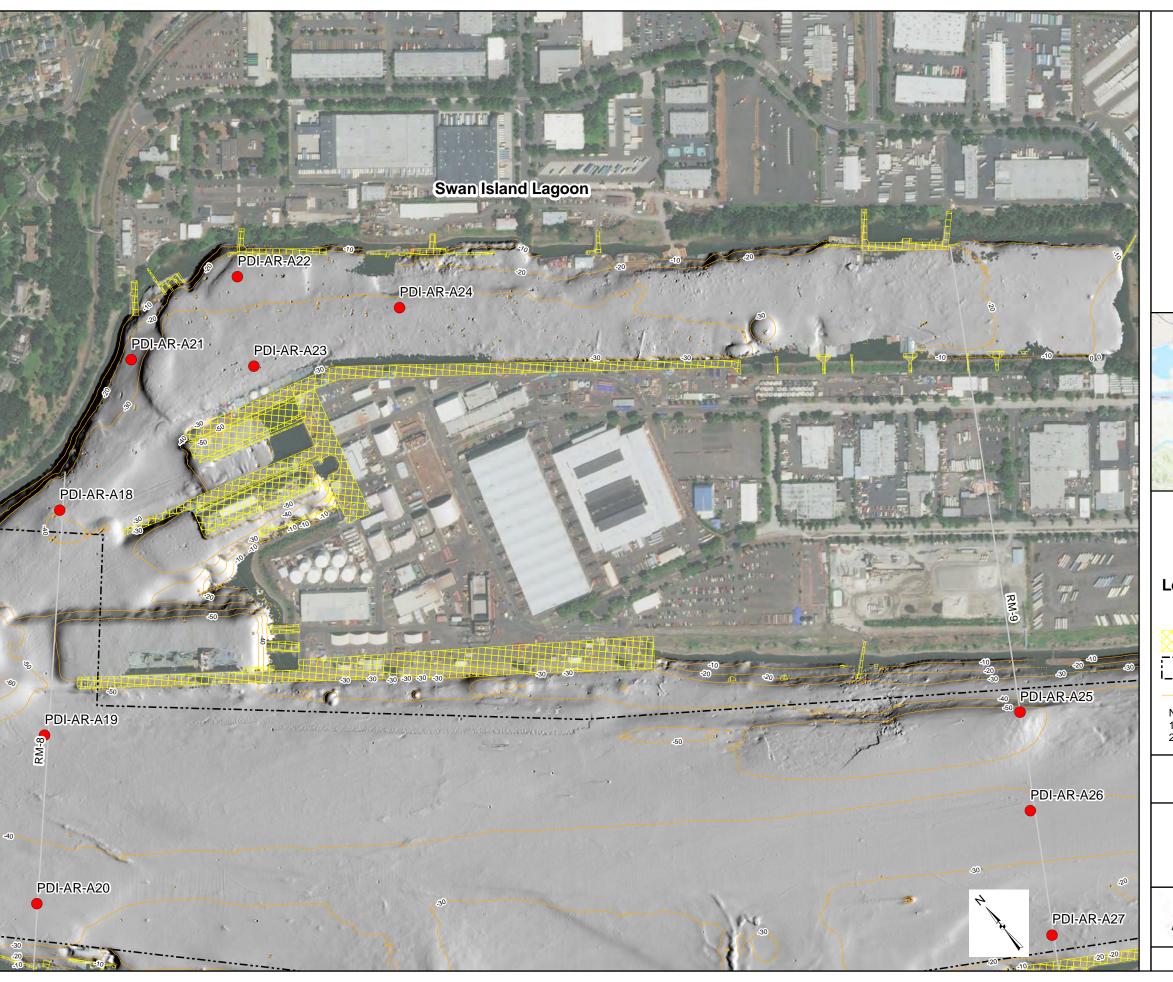
# Proposed Receiver Array Layout Willamette Cove

Portland Harbor Superfund Site PDI Fish Tracking FSP



Figure

MI/SEA January 18, 2018





Approximate Receiver Placement Location

Overwater Structures Navigation Channel

Bathymetric Contour (10 ft CRD 2009)

- Topography map provided by ESRI Basemaps 2017.
   Contours and Hillshade derived from 2009 NOAA bathymetric survey.

# Proposed Receiver Array Layout Swan Island Lagoon

Portland Harbor Superfund Site PDI Fish Tracking FSP

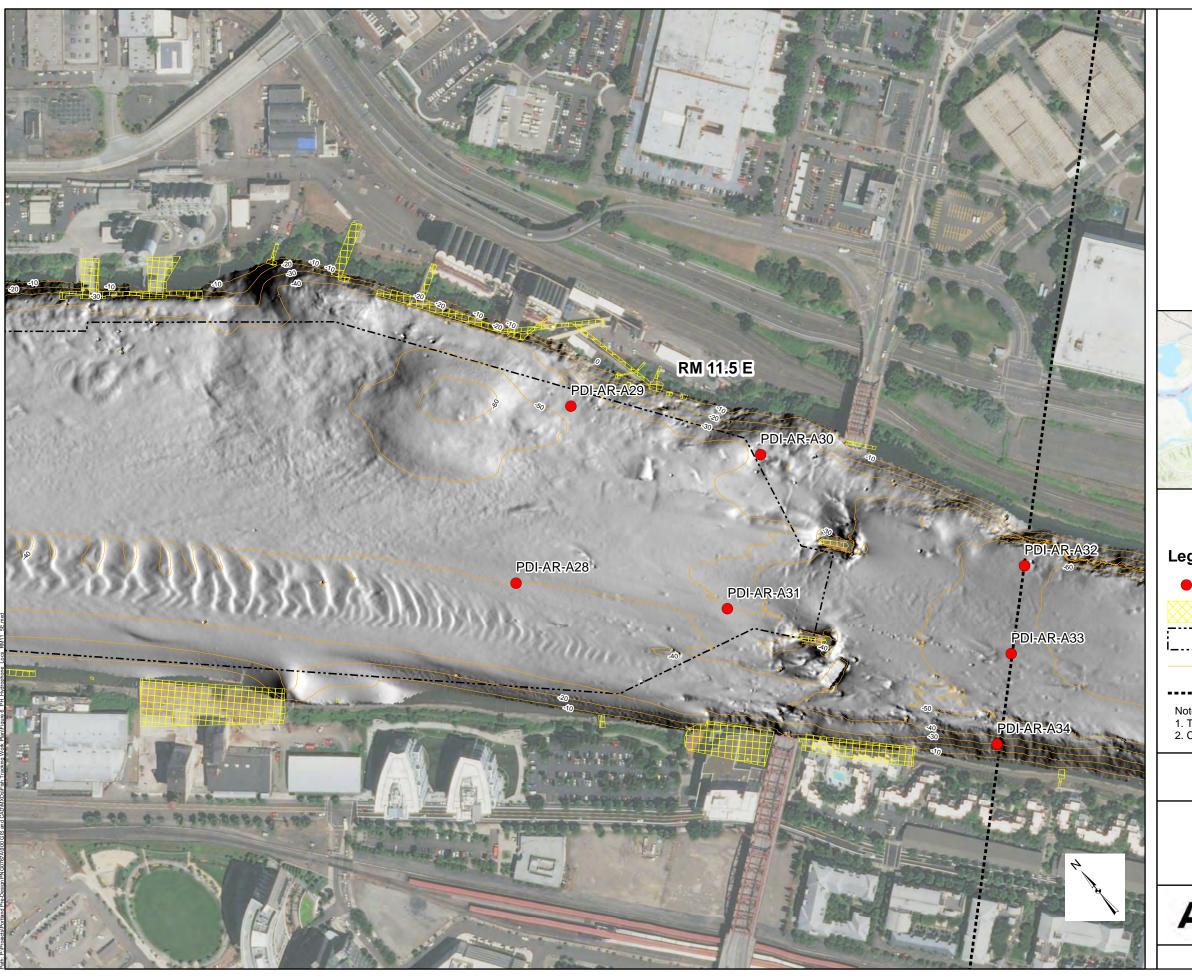


MI/SEA

January 18, 2018

5

Figure





Approximate Receiver Placement Location

Overwater Structures Navigation Channel

Bathymetric Contour (10 ft CRD 2009)

----- Superfund Site Boundary (RM 1.9 to 11.8)

Topography map provided by ESRI Basemaps 2017.
 Contours and Hillshade derived from 2009 NOAA bathymetric survey.

# Proposed Receiver Array Layout RM 11.5E

Portland Harbor Superfund Site PDI Fish Tracking FSP



Figure

MI/SEA January 18, 2018 6



- 2012 Fish Tissue Sampling Location
- 2011 Fish Tissue Sampling Location
- 2007 Fish Tissue Sampling Location

---- Superfund Site Boundary (RM 1.9 to 11.8)

Alternative F Mod SMA Footprint

- 1. Aerial Imagery provided by ESRI Basemaps 2017
  2. n sample count, RM River Mile, SMA Sediment Management Area
  3. Site defined as RM 1.9 to 11.8
  4. The Downtown Reach is defined by EPA as extending from RM 11.8 to
  RM 16.6 and Upriver Reach is defined by EPA as extending from RM 16.6 to RM 28.4
  5. The 2007 locations represent a central point for the individual
- specimens included in each composite

# from Prior Sampling Events (RM 1.9 to 20)

Portland Harbor Superfund Site PDI Fish Tracking FSP

**AE**COM

Geosyntec<sup>▶</sup> consultants

7

Figure

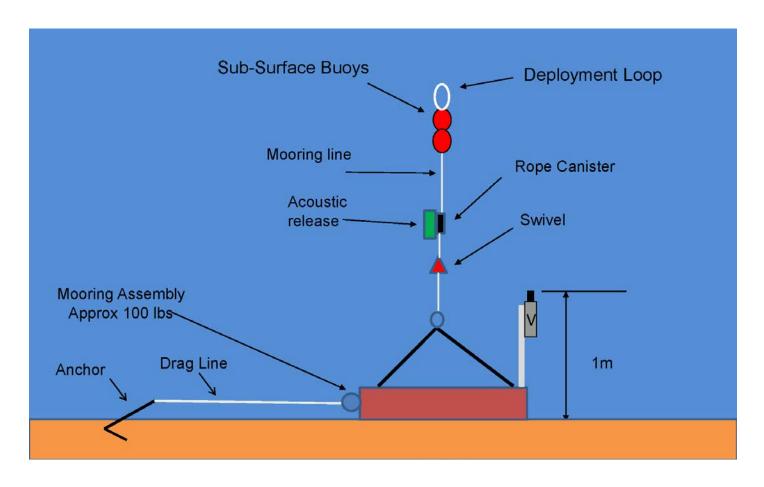
MI/SEA

January 18, 2018





**Figure 8. Acoustic Equipment Mount** 



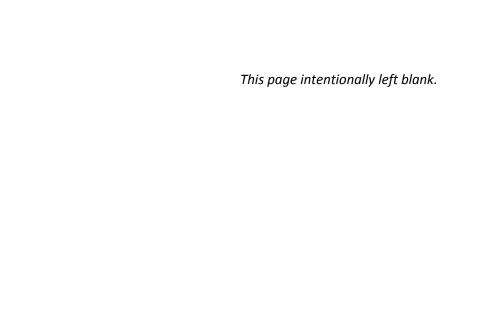
**Figure 9. Acoustic Equipment Schematic** 

AECOM 111 SW Columbia Avenue Suite 1500 Portland OR, 97217 USA aecom.com

Geosyntec 520 Pike Street Suite 1375 Seattle WA, 98101 USA geosyntec.com

#### **Attachment B**

**Draft Fish Tissue Analysis Study Plan** 





AECOM 111 SW Columbia Suite 1500 Portland, Oregon 97201 www.aecom.com 503-222-7200 tel 503-222-4292 fax

January 18, 2018

Mr. Davis Zhen, Project Coordinator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 6th Avenue Seattle, Washington 98101

Subject: Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Pre-Remedial Design (Pre-RD) Investigation and Baseline Sampling

Fish Tissue Field Sampling Plan CERCLA Docket No. 10-2018-0236

Dear Mr. Zhen:

On behalf of the Pre-RD AOC Group, AECOM is pleased to submit the Fish Tissue Field Sampling Plan (FSP) in accordance with the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (ASAOC) for Pre-RD Investigation and Baseline Sampling.

The attached document describes the activities to be performed in compliance with the Statement of Work Section 3.1 "Scope of Pre-Remedial Design Investigation (PDI)" and Section 5.7(c) "Supporting Deliverables to PDI Work Plan" approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as part of the ASAOC.

We understand the EPA has 30 days to review the attached document. In the interest of expediting the project, we encourage a meeting to assist with a timely review and approval process.

Again, on behalf of the Pre-RD AOC Group, we are pleased to submit the referenced document and look forward to assisting in the review process.

Sincerely,

Kenneth M. Tyrrell

Grenoston Tyull

AECOM Project Coordinator Executive Vice President

(281) 224-2793

Copies: Pre-RD AOC Group, Mr. Hans Feige

## **AGENCY REVIEW DRAFT**

## Fish Tissue Field Sampling Plan

Portland Harbor Pre-Remedial Design Investigation and Baseline Sampling Portland Harbor Superfund Site

AECOM Project Number: 60554349 Geosyntec Project Number: PNG0767A

January 18, 2018

Prepared for:

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, Washington 98101

On behalf of:

Portland Harbor Pre-RD AOC Group Portland, Oregon

Prepared by:



111 SW Columbia, Suite 1500 Portland, OR 97201 USA aecom.com



engineers | scientists | innovators

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#### **CERTIFICATION**

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

General Tyull	January 18, 2018
Kenneth M. Tyrrell	Date
PDI Project Coordinator	
AECOM Technical Services	

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#### **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

2,3,7,8-TCDD 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzodioxin

AECOM Technical Services

ASAOC Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent

BEHP bis-2-ethylhexylphthalate

BHHRA baseline human health risk assessment

COC contaminant of concern
CSM Conceptual Site Model

D/U Reach the Downtown Reach and the Upriver Reach

EDD electronic data deliverable

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

ESA Endangered Species Act

FC Field Coordinator
FS feasibility study
FSP Field Sampling Plan

Geosyntec Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.
GPS global positioning system
Gravity Gravity Marine Services
GSI GSI Water Solutions, Inc.

ID identification

LWG Lower Willamette Group

mm millimeter

NAD North American Datum of 1983 PBDE polybrominated diphenyl ether

PCB polychlorinated biphenyl

PDI pre-remedial design investigation
PHSS Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Pre-RD AOC Group Pre-Remedial Design Agreement and Order on Consent Investigation

Group

QA quality assurance

QAPP quality assurance project plan

QC quality control

RI remedial investigation

RM river mile

Fish Tissue Field Sampling Plan

ROD Record of Decision

RV research vessel

Site Portland Harbor Superfund Site

SMA sediment management area

SMB smallmouth bass

SOP Standard Operating Procedure

SOW Statement of Work

Fish Tissue Field Sampling Plan

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Record of Decision (ROD) described a post-ROD sampling effort for the Portland Harbor Superfund Site (Site or PHSS; Figure 1) located in Portland, Oregon, to delineate and better refine the sediment management area (SMA) footprints, refine the Conceptual Site Model (CSM), determine baseline conditions, and support remedial design (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] 2017a). Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. (Geosyntec) and AECOM Technical Services (AECOM) submitted a detailed Work Plan for Pre-Remedial Design Investigation and Baseline Sampling (PDI) on behalf of a group of industrial parties called the Pre-Remedial Design Agreement and Order on Consent Investigation Group (Pre-RD AOC Group). On December 19, 2017, EPA entered into an Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (ASAOC) with the Pre-RD AOC Group to conduct the PDI studies at the Site (EPA 2017b). The ASAOC includes the Statement of Work (SOW) and the PDI Work Plan (an attachment to the SOW), which generally describe the field investigation activities, data analyses, schedule, and deliverables for the PDI.

These PDI studies are a foundational step in what will be a multi-phase effort to update current conditions from the collection of data during the remedial investigation (RI)/feasibility study (FS). The RI/FS was initiated by a group of potentially responsible parties known as the Lower Willamette Group (LWG) and completed by EPA in 2016 (EPA 2016a, 2016b). The RI consisted of three rounds of data collection, including surface and subsurface sediment, bank soils, surface water, sediment traps, porewater, and fish tissue, and other media from 2001 through 2007.

This Field Sampling Plan (FSP) was prepared to support the fish tissue sampling efforts outlined in the PDI Work Plan (Geosyntec 2017) and the project Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) (AECOM and Geosyntec 2018). To the extent practicable, previously approved FSPs from the RI are referenced.

#### 1.1 Project Setting

The PHSS is located in Portland, Oregon, on the lower Willamette River immediately downstream of the urban downtown. The Site extends from river mile (RM) 1.9 upstream to RM 11.8 and covers 2,190 acres (Figure 1). There are two reaches located immediately upstream of the Site. The Downtown Reach, which includes the urbanized area of downtown Portland, is defined by EPA as extending from RM 11.8 to RM 16.6. EPA defines the Upriver Reach as extending from RM 16.6 to RM 28.4. Collectively, the river from RM 11.8 to 28.4 is referred to as the D/U Reach.

#### 1.2 Project Overview

The target species of the PDI 2018 Fish Tissue Study is smallmouth bass (SMB; *Micropterus dolomieu*) because of their abundance, more limited home range, extensive historical chemistry database, and importance in the baseline human health risk assessment (BHHRA). This study

builds on prior SMB sampling in the PHSS, including the 2002 and 2007 RI, the 2011 program (GSI Water Solutions, Inc. [GSI] 2011), and the 2012 program (Windward Environmental 2012)<sup>1</sup>. The focus of this sampling effort is the collection of whole body SMB throughout the Site and upstream of the Site to characterize current concentrations of ROD Table 17 contaminants of concern (COCs). Fish tissue is one line of evidence for monitored natural recovery.

#### 1.3 Fish Tissue Sampling Goals and Objectives

The PDI sampling provides a synoptic baseline chemistry dataset for sediment, fish tissue, and surface water for use in future long-term monitoring of the PHSS. As outlined in the QAPP, the goals of the PDI for fish tissue sampling include the following:

- Characterize current levels of fish tissue COCs in resident SMB tissue on a site-wide basis and smaller spatial scale.
- Characterize upriver concentrations in fish tissue.
- Update statistically based evaluations of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) differences and changes in fish tissue concentrations.
- Update and evaluate study area conditions to refine the CSM for all pathways consistent with the ROD.

#### 2. SAMPLING DESIGN AND APPROACH

This section describes the sample design, sampling schedule, sample locations, sample size, and other sampling considerations. The overall design and methods are consistent with the *Sampling and Analysis Plan: Portland Harbor 2011 Baseline Smallmouth Bass Tissue Study* (GSI 2011) and *Portland Harbor RI/FS: 2012 Modifications to the Field Sampling Plan for Bass Tissue* (Windward Environmental 2012).

#### 2.1 Fish Sampling Design

SMB have been collected from the Site several times, including 2002, 2007, 2011, and 2012, and analyzed for COCs in fillet and whole body tissue using individual and composite samples. The overall PDI sample design for SMB is consistent with the most recent and approved 2012 SMB program, which included sampling and analysis of whole body specimens throughout the Site and a portion of the D/U Reach. The design includes collection of one specimen from each of 95 sampling locations within the Site, as well as 20 specimens from the Downtown Reach and 20 from the Upriver Reach. The target number of specimens within the Site is the same as the 2012

Fish Tissue Field Sampling Plan 18 January 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> SMB tissue chemistry data collected as part of the 2011 and 2012 sampling programs were not included in the RI dataset.

program. While a total of 135 SMB are targeted, the number collected will be to the extent sufficient numbers of fish are present in the summer/fall of 2018.

#### 2.2 Fish Sampling Schedule

Fish collection is expected to include two 10- to 12-day sessions: one session in August before Labor Day and one in September after Labor Day. This schedule includes a safety rest break over the Labor Day holiday weekend. The field schedule may be affected by adverse weather and fishing success. At the end of the first 10- to 12-day sampling session, the SMB catch rate will be evaluated in consultation with EPA to determine if adjustments to the FSP are needed to achieve the target sample number.

An optional boat electrofishing session (described below in Section 4.3.2) is proposed if numbers of specimens caught by hook-and-line angling at the proposed sampling locations are not sufficient.

#### 2.3 Sampling Locations

A total of 135 sampling locations are proposed for the 2018 Study (Figure 2). Within the PHSS, the 95 sampling locations include areas that were successful in the 2011 and 2012 SMB studies and provide coverage of both sides of the river and the SMAs. Within the D/U Reach, 40 sampling locations are proposed to characterize upriver concentrations in resident fish tissue. Half of the sampling locations (n=20) are in the Downtown Reach and include locations previously sampled in the 2011 and 2012 programs. The remaining 20 sampling locations are located throughout the Upriver Reach up to Willamette Falls. Table 1 presents the proposed 2018 sample locations (final positioning will change based on the specific locations where fish are caught).

#### 2.4 Specimen Lengths

Consistent with the 2011 and 2012 sampling, SMB that are 225 to 355 millimeters (mm) in total length (approximately 9 to 14 inches) will be targeted. Specimens that do not meet the target size range will be released. SMB larger than 355 mm may be retained for archival at the selected laboratory for possible future analysis.

### 2.5 Other Sampling Considerations

The specimens will be frozen and shipped to the laboratory for processing as whole fish samples. No compositing or filleting of SMB specimens will occur in the field. If any tagged fish from the Fish Tracking Study are caught, these specimens will be retained for chemical analysis (up to 10 tagged fish). Evaluation of the tissue chemistry and telemetry data will provide an understanding of the exposure history of the tagged fish.

#### 2.6 Key Changes from Previously Approved FSPs

Fish sampling will be performed in accordance with EPA-approved project plans (GSI 2011, Windward Environmental 2012), except where noted. Key PDI changes include the following:

- Samples will be analyzed for the COCs listed in ROD Table 17 for fish tissue (presented in Table 6 of the PDI Work Plan).
- In addition to sample preparation and analysis by Axys, an additional laboratory (ALS) will be used for analysis of specific ROD Table 17 COCs, as specified in Section 5 of this FSP and the project QAPP.
- Tissue sample identification codes will be modified to describe the 2018 PDI sampling, as described in Section 4.2.1 of the QAPP.

#### 3. PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND FIELD TEAM

#### 3.1 Team Organization and Responsibilities

EPA is the lead agency overseeing the work. The EPA Project Manager is Davis Zhen. EPA will be assisted in the review of technical documents by an oversight contractor.

Team organization is presented in detail in the PDI Work Plan and in Section 2 of the QAPP (AECOM and Geosyntec 2018a). As it relates to this FSP, AECOM is coordinating activities, including management of all subcontractors, field sampling, analysis, and reporting scoping tasks.

The PDI Project Coordinator, Mr. Ken Tyrrell, and PDI Project Manager, Dr. Jennifer Pretare, Ph.D. (AECOM), will be responsible for overall project coordination and providing oversight on planning and coordination, work plans, all project deliverables, and performance of the administrative tasks needed to ensure timely and successful completion of the project. Ms. Betsy Ruffle (AECOM) will serve as the senior technical lead for this study. Dr. Pretare is also the Project Field Coordinator (FC). In this role, she will oversee all phases of work, including planning, permitting, health and safety, logistics, field sample collection, sample packaging, and shipment to the laboratory. Dr. Pretare will be responsible for overall field study implementation and field data quality. Deviations from this FSP will not be made without prior approval from the FC. Dr. Pretare will oversee the preparation of the field report.

Mr. Andy Clodfelter and Mr. Glen Mejia (AECOM) are the Fish Tissue Study fisheries biologists. Mr. Clodfelter or Mr. Mejia may act as field supervisor at times when Dr. Pretare is not present at the study area. Both are qualified to implement fish tissue collection, maintain field documentation, and address any stipulations that may arise from scientific collection permits or Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance for the study. The team is required to have

a qualified ESA fisheries biologist to identify and document any incidental catch of ESA-listed species.

The research vessels (RV) for this study will be provided by Gravity Marine Services (Gravity). Mr. Shawn Hinz is the point of contact for Gravity. One primary RV will be at least 30 feet in length and have capacity for up to 8 people, including observers, fishing gear, and coolers for sample storage. A second RV will be a smaller "jon boat" of less than 15 feet in length for navigating into nearshore areas. Gravity will provide RV captains and crew who are qualified to fish for SMB and to assist in tissue collection procedures. All team members will have valid State of Oregon fishing licenses.

The Oregon Bass & Panfish Club will assist as fishing guides and anglers. Volunteers from this organization have assisted the LWG in previous studies and have experience supporting scientific studies within Portland Harbor.

#### 3.2 Communication/Information Flow

The communication strategy is outlined in Section 2 of the QAPP. The FC will be the point of contact for field staff during the implementation of this FSP. Deviations from this FSP or the project-specific QAPP will be reported to the PDI Project Manager for consultation. Significant deviations from the FSP/QAPP will be further reported to representatives of the Pre-RD AOC Group and EPA.

#### 3.2.1 Coordination with EPA

The PDI Project Coordinator will notify the EPA Project Manager 1 to 2 weeks prior to beginning any field activities so that EPA can schedule any oversight activities required. The PDI Project Coordinator will also notify the EPA Project Manager once field activities have been completed.

#### 4. SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCEDURES

This section describes the procedures and methods that will be used for sample collection; recordkeeping; sample handling, storage, and shipping protocols; and field quality assurance (QA)/quality control (QC) procedures. Sample collection will follow procedures outlined in the 2012 Modifications to the Field Sampling Plan for Bass Tissue (Windward Environmental 2012) and the Sampling and Analysis Plan: Portland Harbor 2011 Baseline Smallmouth Bass Tissue Study (GSI 2011). The intended sample locations are described in Section 2.3 and displayed in Figures 2a and 2b and Figures 3a through 3i. Sampling will be conducted using a two-boat team. The smaller boat will have a boat operator and an angler. The remaining team members and any observers will be located on the larger RV. The precise team configuration may vary on a given day, but at a minimum one scientist and one angler not otherwise engaged in vessel operations will be present. The boat operator and deck hand will also serve as an angler when not operating

Fish Tissue Field Sampling Plan

the vessels. All field work will be conducted in accordance with the project-specific Health and Safety Plan (AECOM and Geoysntec 2018b). Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) associated with the fish tissue collection program are provided in Appendix A.

#### 4.1 Sampling Vessel and Equipment

Sampling vessels will be provided and operated by Gravity. The proposed sampling vessels are R/V *Tieton* and a small 10-foot aluminum jon boat. The R/V *Tieton* is a 32-foot landing craft type vessel with a 16-foot working deck that provides a stable platform for fish sampling and angling. The small jon boat will be used to access sampling locations that require greater maneuverability.

#### 4.2 Station Positioning and Navigation

Station position and navigation will be performed using methods outlined in the 2011 Sampling and Analysis Plan (GSI 2011). Latitude and longitude coordinates will be obtained using a global positioning system (GPS) on the vessels operated by Gravity. The standard projection method to be used during field activities is Horizontal Datum: North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83), State Plane Coordinate System, Oregon North Zone. The positioning objective is to accurately determine and record the position of the sampling vessel at each successful sampling location to within 1 to 2 meters.

#### 4.3 Fish Collection

#### 4.3.1 Angling

The fish collection SOP is provided in Appendix A. Angling will be conducted using a standard rod and reel with monofilament line (6-12 pound test). SMB can be caught with a variety of lures, depending on the desired sampling depth. For example, lead-weighted hooks with attached green-rubber tube jigs can be used to fish the bottom, while plastic crank baits resembling small fish or crayfish can be used to fish the shallower surface waters (zero to 4 meters). An electric trolling motor will be used on the Gravity-operated jon boat to more accurately access specific angling locations and enable the complete coverage of selected areas. Angling for SMB will be conducted primarily from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Once caught, fish will be handled using nitrile gloves, unhooked, and its length measured on a decontaminated measuring board. If a collected SMB is within the target size, it will be euthanized, weighed, and placed into individual labeled resealable plastic bags and placed in a cooler with ice as described in Section 4.3.4. AECOM scientists will be on board each boat to handle and document the fish and to record the GPS coordinates of the collection site.

#### 4.3.2 Boat Electrofishing

If an insufficient number of SMB are caught by angling, boat electrofishing is proposed as an alternate collection method. Selection of boat electrofishing gear will be based on biological and environmental factors that influence gear efficiency. If boat electrofishing is required, an

addendum to this FSP will be developed. The decision to implement electrofishing will be made in concert with EPA, and electrofishing would likely occur in mid to late September after initial angling efforts have been completed.

#### 4.3.3 Contingency Plan for Collecting Samples

During fish sampling efforts, the field crew may encounter field conditions that preclude collection of a SMB specimen at the planned location. For example, the combination of unsuitable river levels, currents, bathymetry, physical obstructions, and absence of catchable fish may preclude collecting a sample at the target location. If no target-sized SMB are captured within 30 minutes at a single location, the field crew will move to another sampling location. Effort will be taken to revisit target fish collection locations that were previously unproductive during the early morning or evening when SMB are more active feeders. Unproductive target locations will be visited at least twice if a sample is not collected from that location during the initial visit. Samples will be assigned the sample identification (ID) of the closest planned sample station.

#### 4.3.4 Field Sample Handling

All field equipment used to collect and process fish will be decontaminated. All buckets, measuring boards, handheld scales, and coolers used to retrieve and store fish will be washed with Alconox<sup>TM</sup> soap and rinsed in river water before sampling is initiated at each location.

Fish will be measured for total length by placing them on a measuring platform. The total length of a fish will be measured from the anterior-most part of the fish to the tip of the longest caudal fin ray (when the lobes of the caudal fin are compressed dorsoventrally). If the fish does not meet the target length range, the specimen will be returned to the river. Fish will be photographed as specified in the field documentation SOP.

Retained fish will be weighed using a handheld scale, euthanized, and placed inside a resealable plastic bag. Fish will be euthanized using a lethal dose of the anesthetic MS-222 (or other method recommended by the National Marine Fisheries Service and/or Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, or as stated in the Scientific Take Permit). A weatherproof label will be filled out and adhered to the inside of a smaller resealable plastic bag. The plastic bags containing the fish and the label then will be placed inside a third resealable plastic bag. All labels will be marked with the date, time, project name (or case number), specimen ID, and initials of the sampler, and the fish sample will be placed in a cooler with ice, as outlined in Section 4.3.4 of the QAPP and attached SOPs (Appendix A). Each retained fish and sample location will be photographed. GPS coordinates will be recorded in the field logbook.

At the end of each day, the coolers will be transported to the secure AECOM Sampling Processing Facility (1115 S.E. Caruthers Street), which will serve as a temporary processing and storage facility. The RVs may transfer fish coolers to field team members at the Swan Island Boat Ramp throughout the day depending on the success of the fish collection efforts. The fish

Fish Tissue Field Sampling Plan

will be transferred to a chest freezer for frozen storage at the AECOM facility. Once frozen, the fish will be placed into coolers with dry ice before shipment to the contract laboratory.

Tagged fish that are submitted for fish tissue chemistry will be clearly identified when submitted to the laboratory using a note on the sample bag and chain-of-custody record indicating 'tagged fish'. Before fish processing, the laboratory will remove the internal acoustic tag and external identification tag, record the tag IDs, and archive the tags in a sealed bag labeled with the fish sample ID.

#### 4.4 Management of Investigation-Derived Waste

Fish collected but not retained for analysis will be immediately returned to the lower Willamette River from where they were collected. Water containing diluted amounts of phosphate-free detergent (i.e., Alconox) used for decontaminating the sample processing equipment will also be released to the lower Willamette River at the same sample location. Other consumables such as disposable sampling equipment, fish surgical tools, and gloves will be bagged for disposal and managed as a solid waste and discarded as general municipal waste.

#### 5. LABORATORY ANALYSIS

The chemical analysis of tissue samples will be performed by the following laboratories, or as specified in the QAPP (AECOM and Geosyntec 2018):

- SGS Axys Analytical Services in British Columbia, Canada, will homogenize each whole body specimen as a discrete sample and analyze the samples for: chlorinated pesticides and hexachlorobenzene, PCB congeners, dioxins/furans (2,3,7,8-TCDD eq), polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs), and lipids.
- ALS Environmental in Kelso, Washington, will analyze homogenized tissue samples for arsenic, mercury, bis-2-ethylhexylphthalate (BEHP), and pentachlorophenol.

Laboratory QC and data validation protocols will be followed to ensure that data quality and representation are in accordance with method requirements. Additional information is provided in the QAPP. Laboratory QA/QC will be maintained through the use of standard EPA methods and other accepted methods and standard analytical procedures for the target analytes. Laboratory methods, QA procedures, and QA/QC requirements for the sampling are generally equivalent to the LWG protocols for tissue chemistry described in *Round 3B Field Sampling Plan for Fish and Invertebrate Tissue and Collocated Surface Sediment* (Integral Consulting 2007).

#### 6. DATA MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

All data management will be performed according to the QAPP and Data Quality Monitoring Plan.

#### 6.1 Field Documentation and Reporting

A bound field logbook will be assigned to and maintained by AECOM field team members to provide daily records of significant events, observations, and measurements during the field effort. Each page will be numbered, signed, and dated. These logbooks will be kept as permanent records. Complete field record-keeping details can be found in the project QAPP.

A brief activity log will be filed with the FC at the completion of each working day. This log will summarize the work activities undertaken/completed each day, progress, personnel on-site, hours worked, health and safety concerns, and any technical issues encountered. Field logbooks and field data sheets completed during fish collection activities will be scanned and emailed to the FC at the conclusion of each working day (or as soon as practically possible).

#### 6.2 Plan Deviations

Deviations to this FSP potentially include the sampling of alternate stations or scope reductions/enhancements related to site conditions or real-time information. Safety will be given the highest priority in all aspects, and the Project FC/PDI Project Manager will be responsible for documenting all plan deviations.

#### 6.3 Data Management and Retention

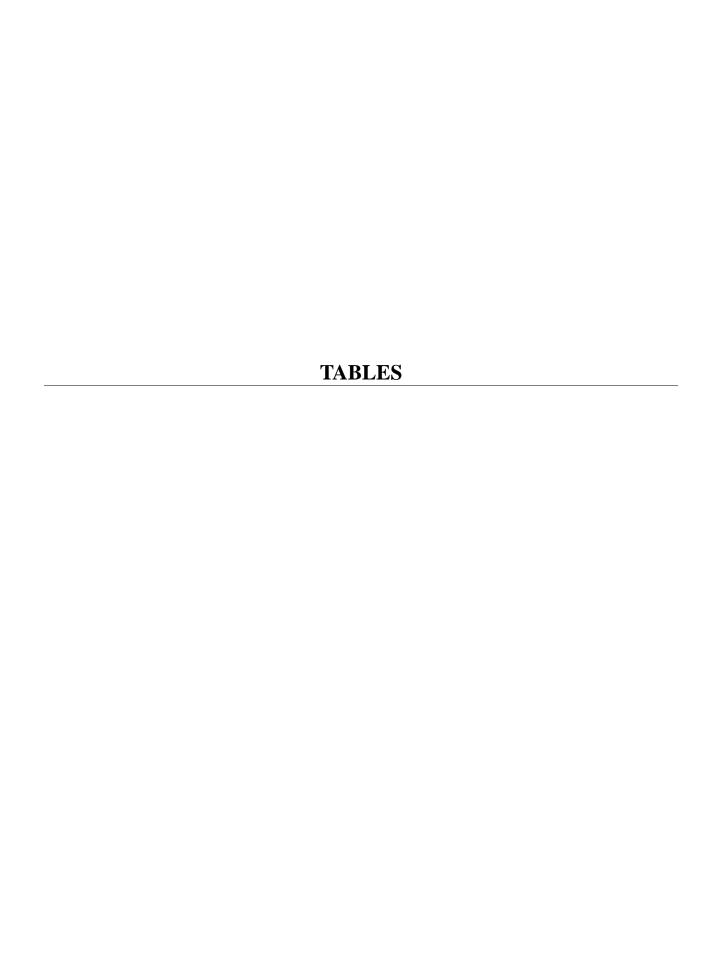
All related documentation is to be maintained in the project file either in electronic or hardcopy form. All hardcopy records will be maintained in the project file; all electronic records will be maintained in project-specific directories within AECOM's network and a final electronic data deliverable (EDD) will be provided to EPA at the conclusion of the PDI study.

#### 7. REFERENCES

AECOM (AECOM Technical Services) and Geosyntec (Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.). 2018a. Quality Assurance Project Plan. Draft. Portland Harbor Pre-Remedial Design Investigation and Baseline Sampling, Portland Harbor Superfund Site, Portland, Oregon. January.

AECOM and Geosyntec. 2018b. Programmatic HAZWOPER Health and Safety Plan. Portland Harbor Pre-Remedial Design Investigation and Baseline Sampling. Portland Harbor Superfund Site. January 2018.

- EPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency). 2016a. Portland Harbor RI/FS, Final Remedial Investigation Report, Portland, Oregon. United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, Seattle, Washington. 8 February.
- EPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency). 2016b. Portland Harbor RI/FS, Final Feasibility Study. Portland, Oregon. United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, Seattle, Washington. June.
- EPA. 2017a. Record of Decision Portland Harbor Superfund Site, Portland, Oregon. United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, Seattle, WA. January.
- EPA. 2017b. Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent and Statement of Work for Pre-Remedial Design Investigation and Baseline Sampling. Agreement between EPA Region 10, Seattle Washington and the Pre-Remedial Design Group. CERCLA Docket No. 10-2018-0236. December 19.
- Geosyntec (Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.). 2017. Final Work Plan. Portland Harbor Pre-Remedial Design Investigation Studies, Portland Harbor Superfund Site, Portland, Oregon. Prepared for the Pre-RD AOC Group for submittal to EPA Region 10 (attached to the final Statement of Work). December 19.
- GSI (GSI Water Solutions, Inc.). 2011. Portland Harbor 2011 Baseline Smallmouth Bass Tissue Study, Sampling and Analysis Plan, Willamette River, Portland, Oregon. Prepared for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and City of Portland.
- Integral Consulting. 2007. Portland Harbor RI/FS Round 3B Field Sampling Plan for Fish and Invertebrate Tissue and Co-located Surface Sediment, Appendix C: Standard Operating Procedures for Fish Tissue Processing and Shipping. Integral Consulting Inc. Mercer Island, WA.
- Windward Environmental. 2012. Portland Harbor RI/FS: 2012 Modifications to the Field Sampling Plan for Bass Tissue. Prepared for the Lower Willamette Group, Portland, OR. Windward Environmental LLC, Seattle, WA.



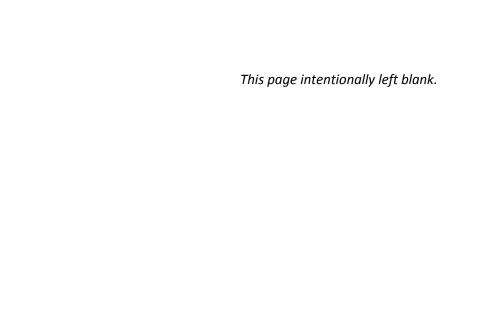


Table 1. Sample Identification and Coordinates					
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2	7617263.71327000000	723910.07493700000			
3	7617134.71241000000	723598.07595000000			
4	7617024.71110000000	723191.07718000000			
5	7616907.70922000000	722636.07880800000			
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12	7615191.70220000000	719604.08982500000			
13	7615224.69982000000	719042.09125800000			
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16	7617968.68276000000	716893.09144000000			
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18	7616685.68128000000	715566.09743500000			
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**Table 1. Sample Identification and Coordinates** 

	Table 1. Sample Identification and Coordinates					
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**Table 1. Sample Identification and Coordinates** 

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106         7648189.18301000000         673056.6121170           107         7646255.15851000000         672363.1847760           108         7649903.00867000000         670977.8867550           109         7645328.97063000000         671121.7443250           110         7646369.40451000000         669386.5067850           111         7647151.38293000000         668746.0813230           112         7648972.62629000000         668328.1753140           113         7647120.37841000000         667557.0862440           114         7646048.29649000000         666503.0160160           115         7645738.37386000000         665044.1027000           116         7646059.36345000000         662694.1105870           117         7647690.20938000000         661083.1266640	00000 00000 00000 00000
107         7646255.15851000000         672363.1847760           108         7649903.00867000000         670977.8867550           109         7645328.97063000000         671121.7443250           110         7646369.40451000000         669386.5067850           111         7647151.38293000000         668746.0813230           112         7648972.62629000000         668328.1753140           113         7647120.37841000000         667557.0862440           114         7646048.29649000000         666503.0160160           115         7645738.37386000000         665044.1027000           116         7646059.36345000000         662694.1105870           117         7647690.20938000000         661083.1266640	00000 00000 00000
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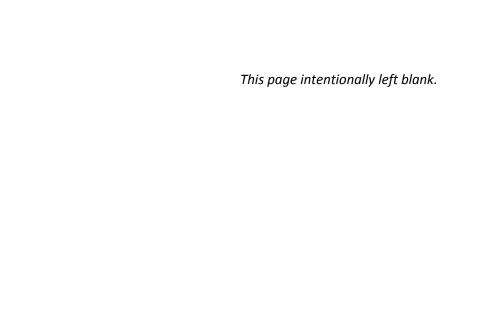
## Notes:

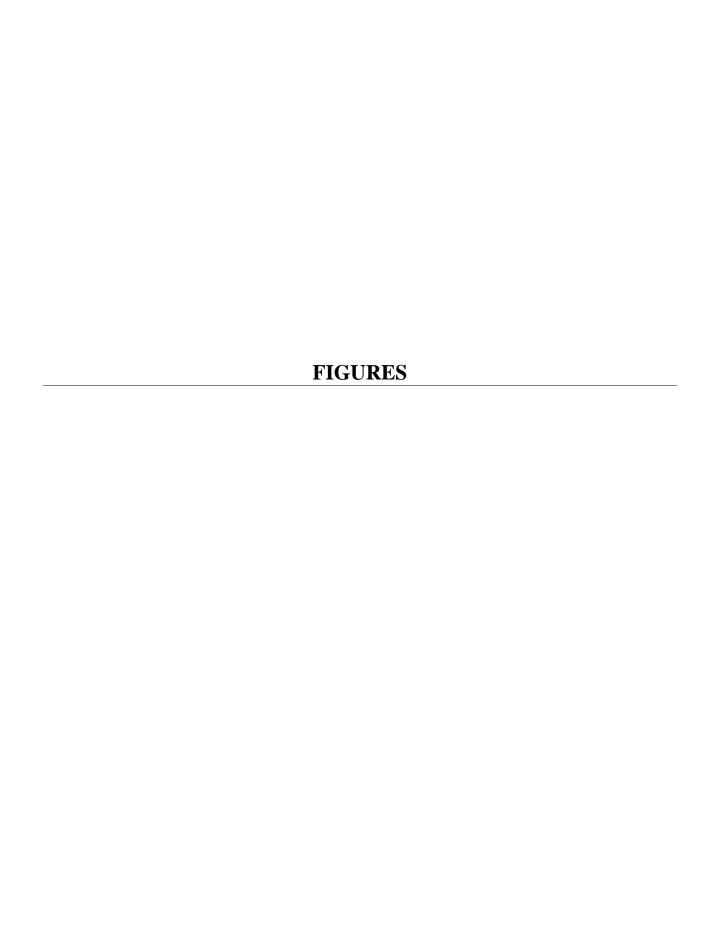
- 1. Samples numbered sequentially based on location downstream to upstream from RM 1 to 135 (matches methodology used for other sampling locations).
- 2. Horizontal Projection: NAD 1983 Oregon State Plane North (Intl Feet)

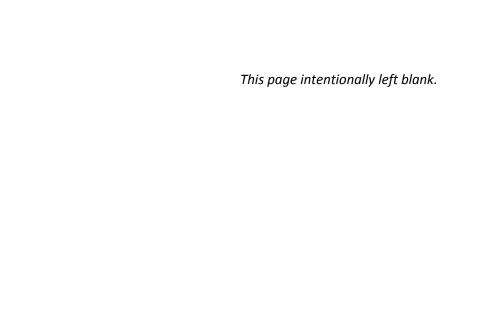
## Acronyms:

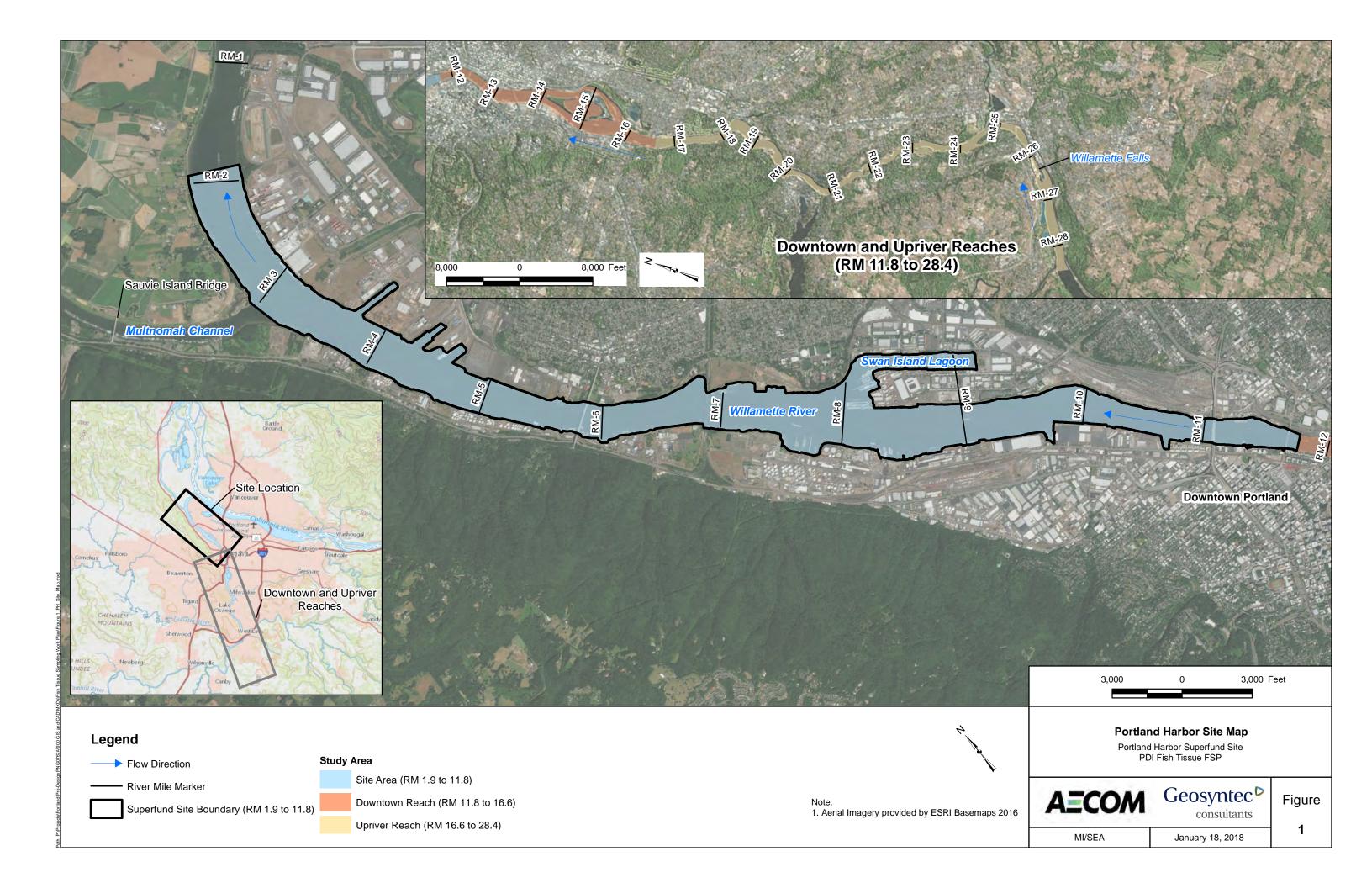
RM = river mile

NAD = North American Datum

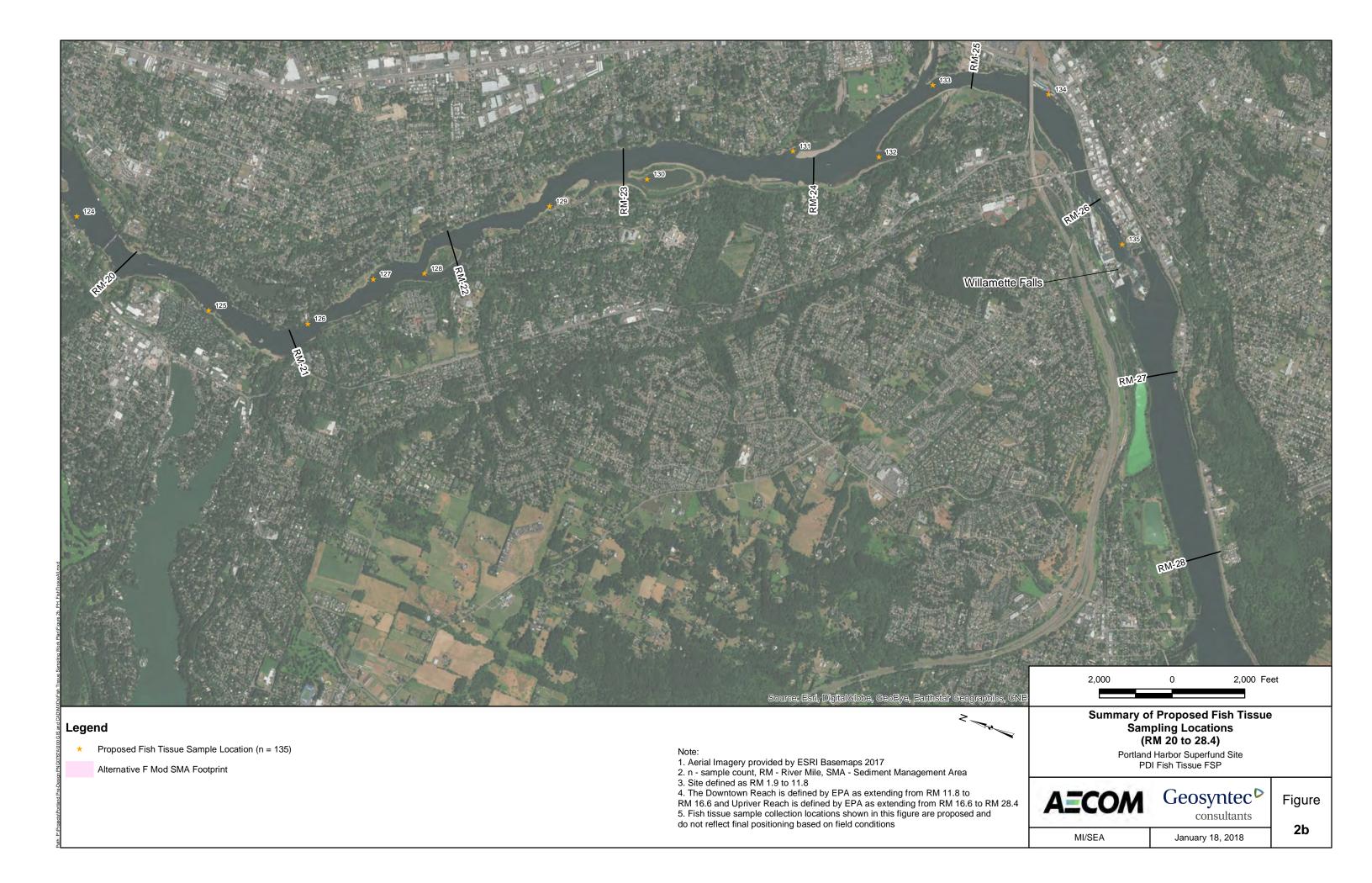


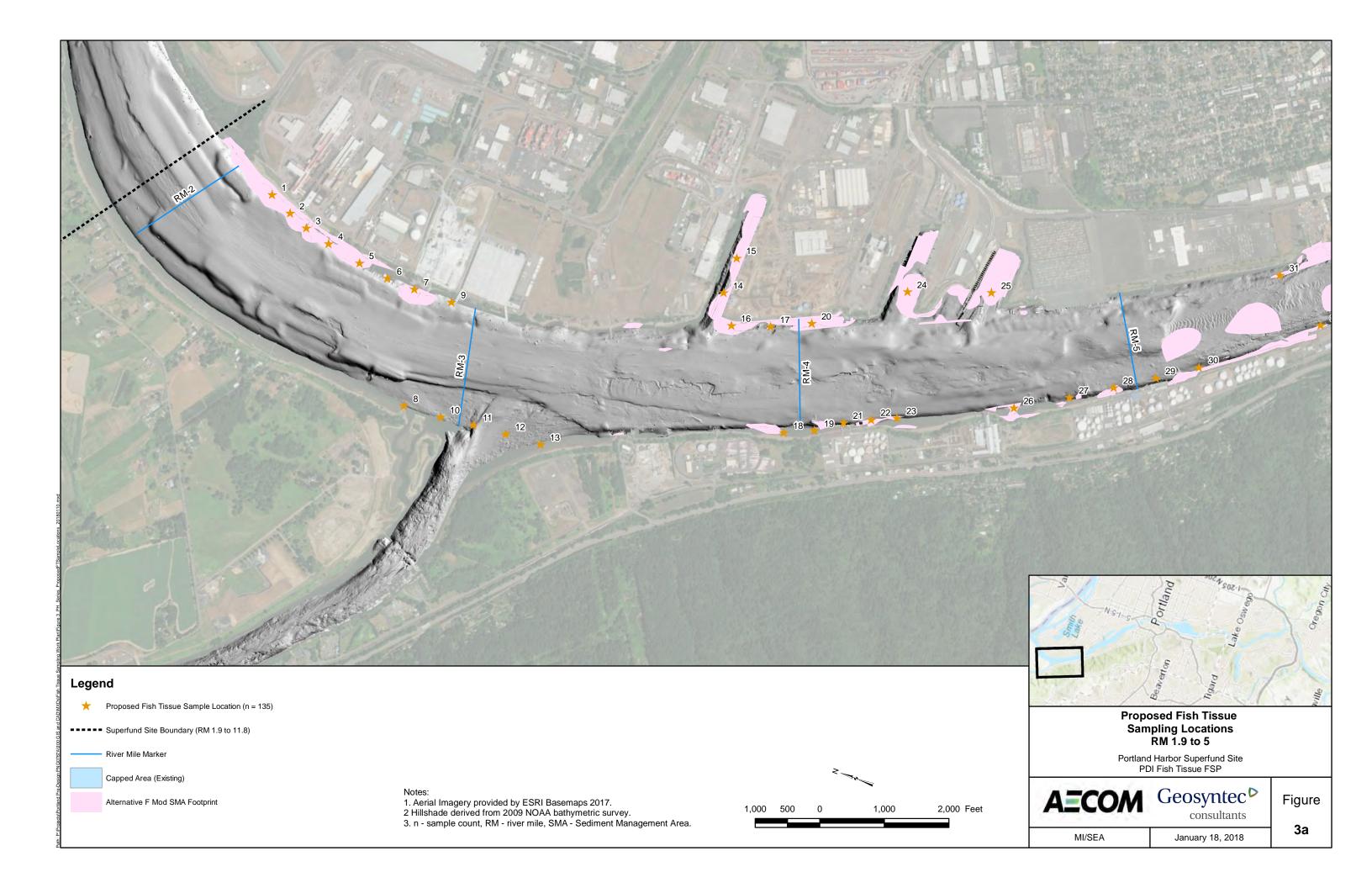


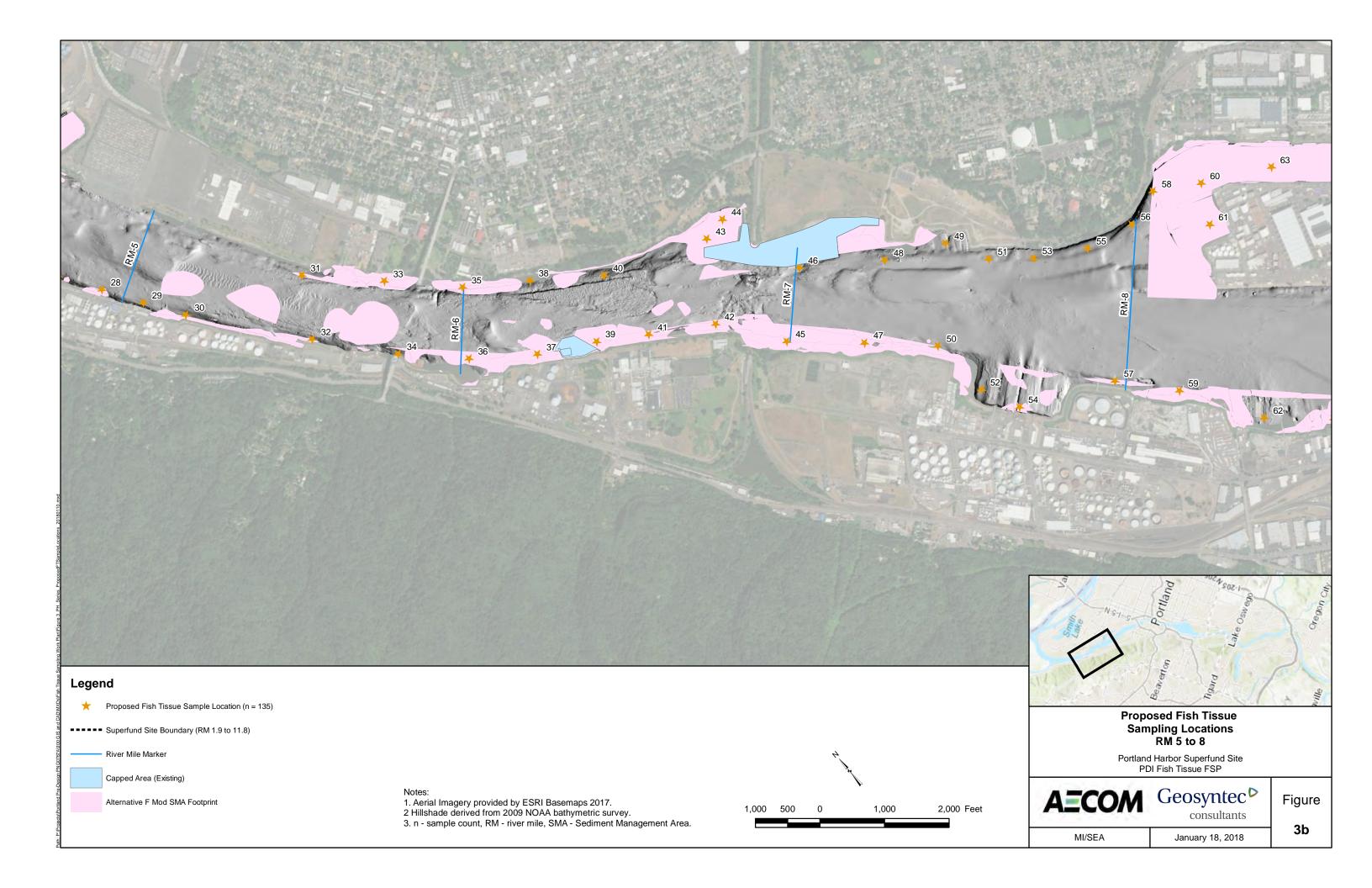


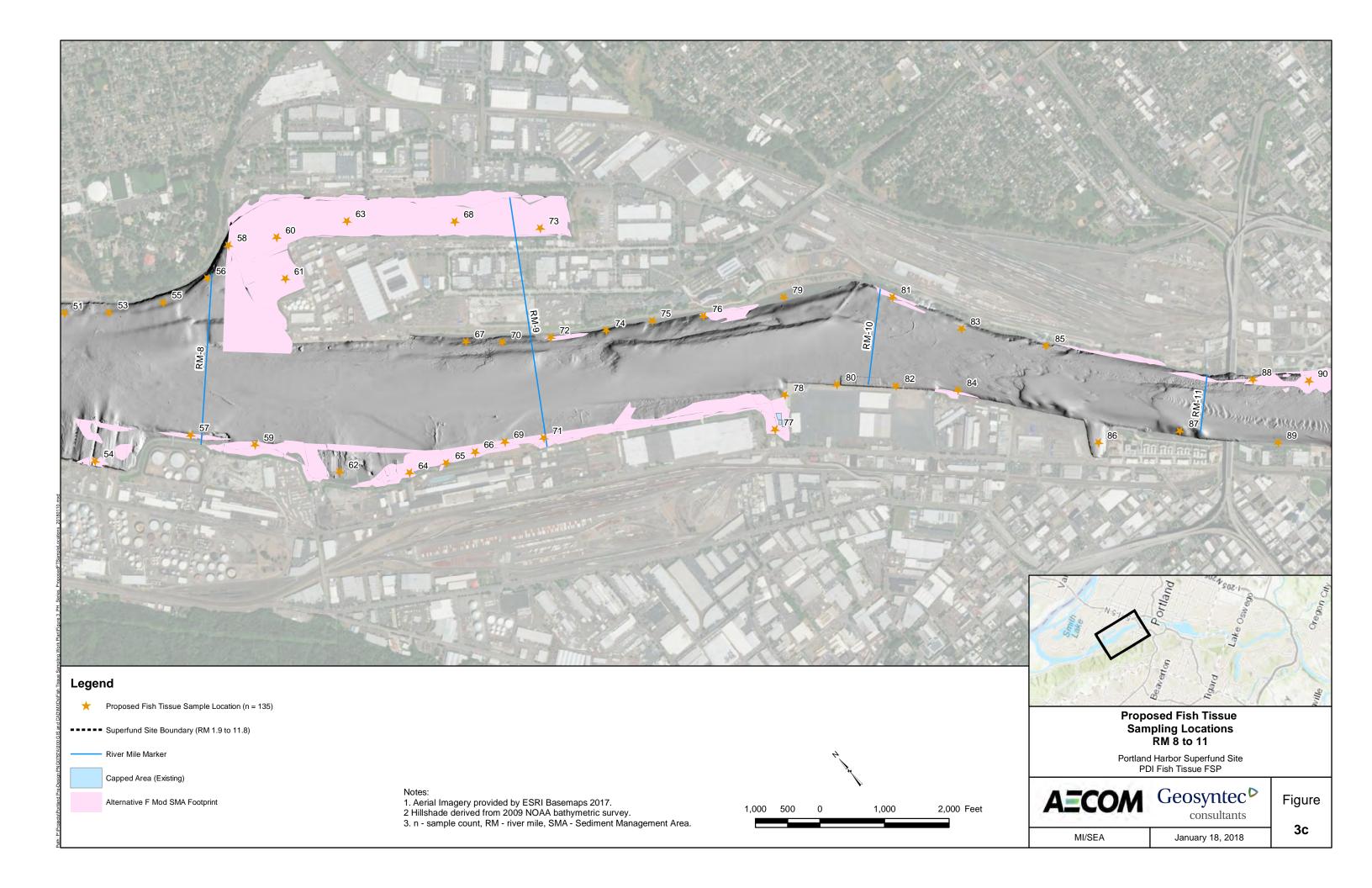


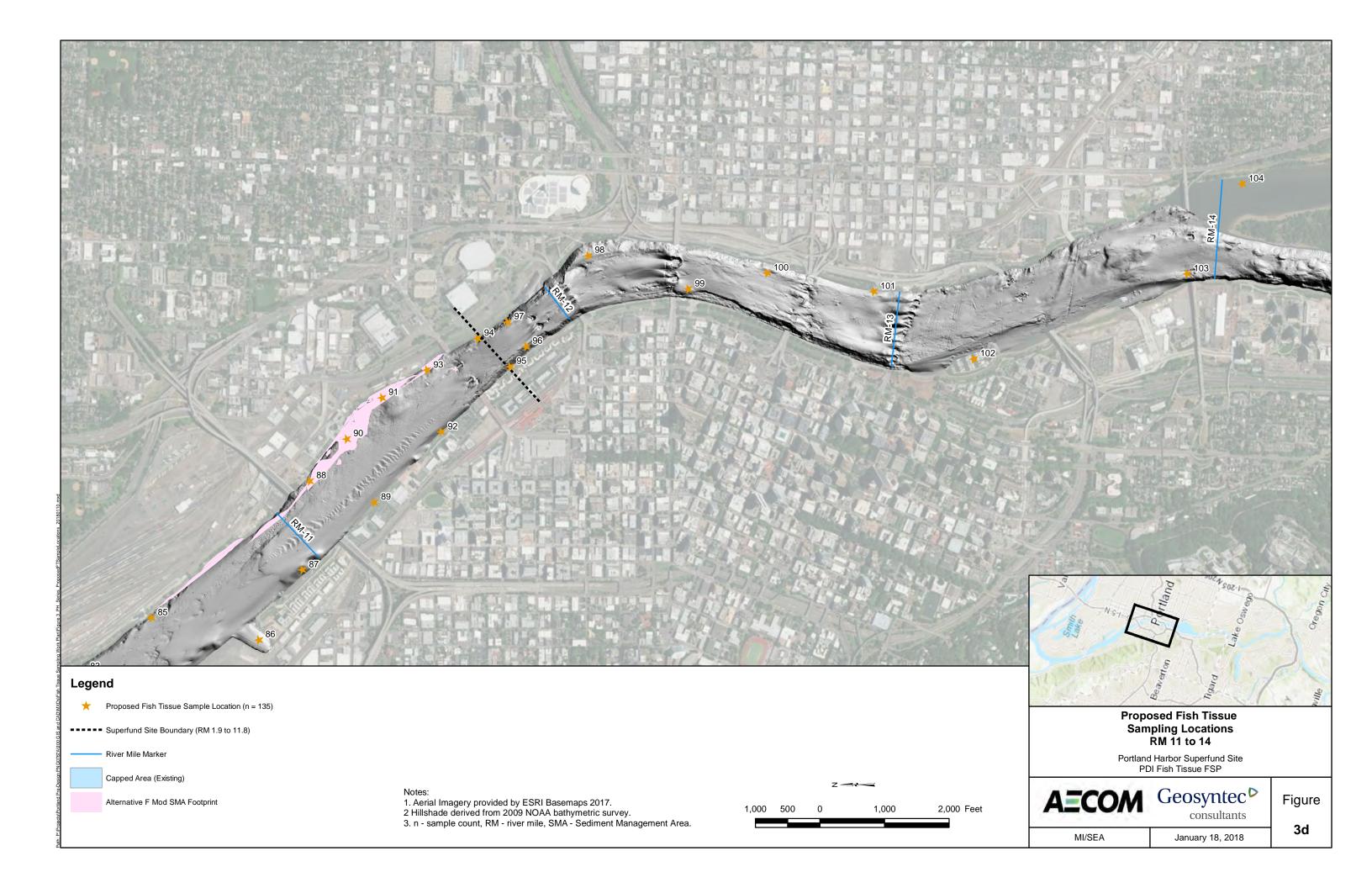


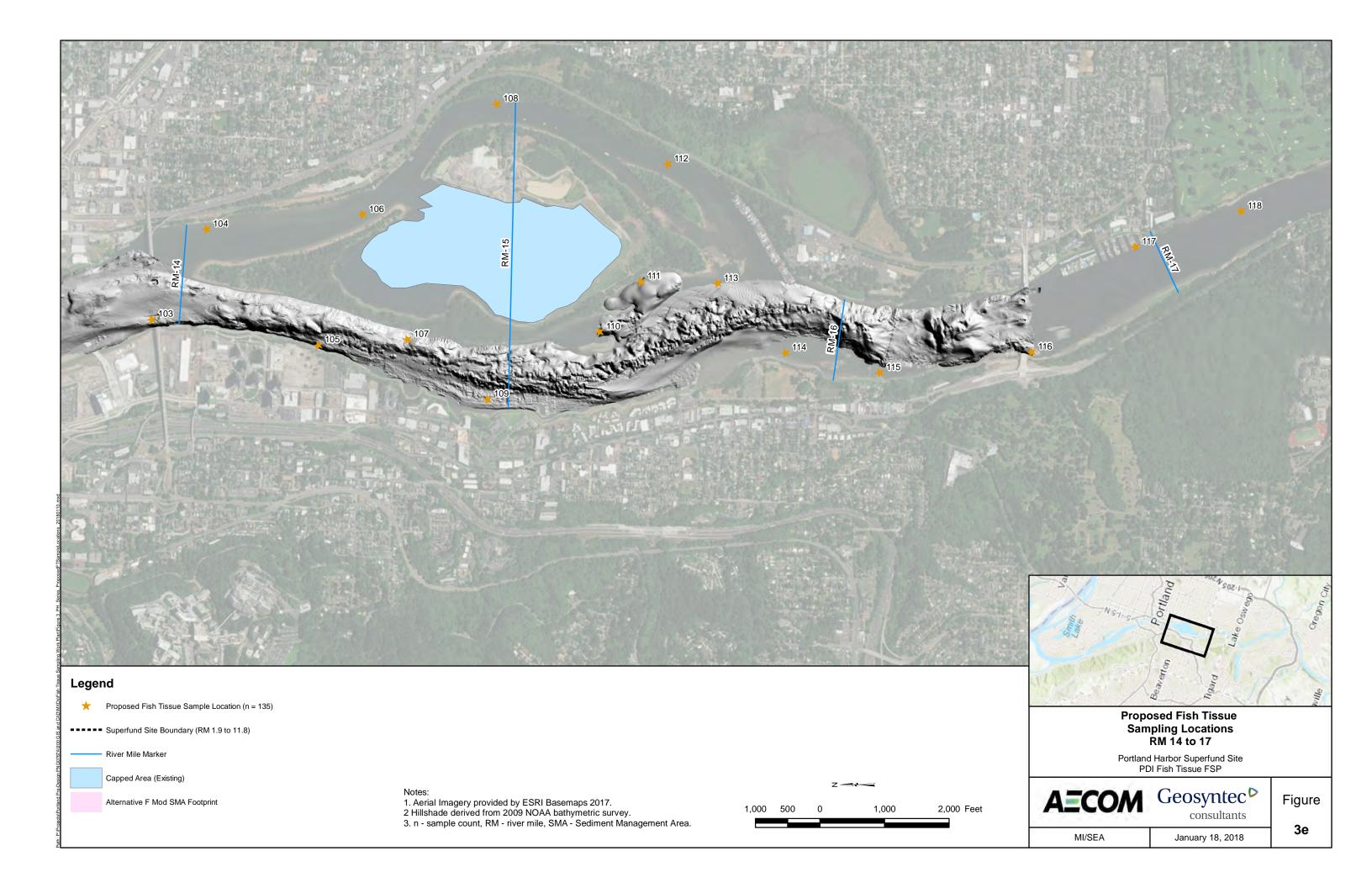


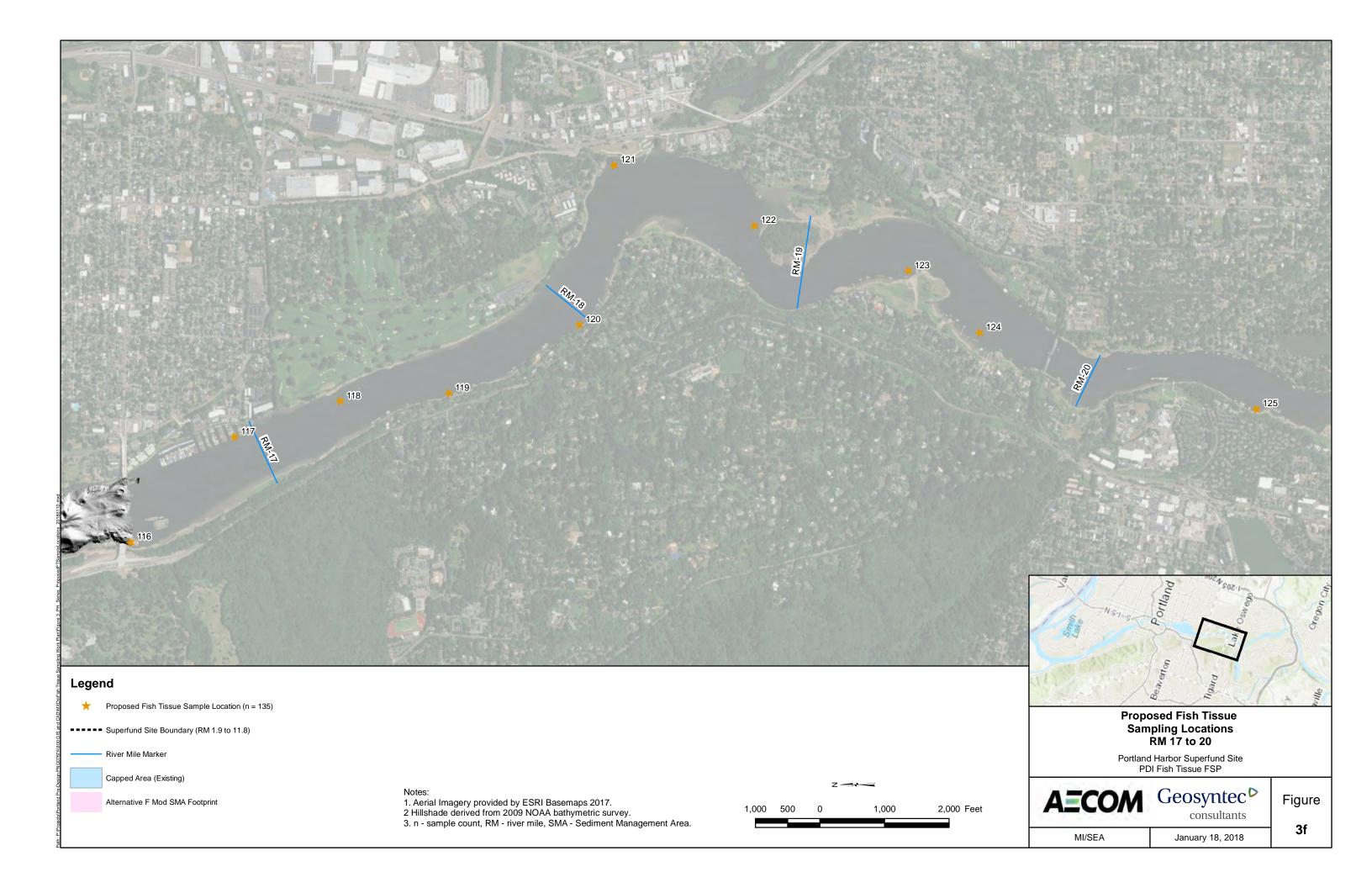


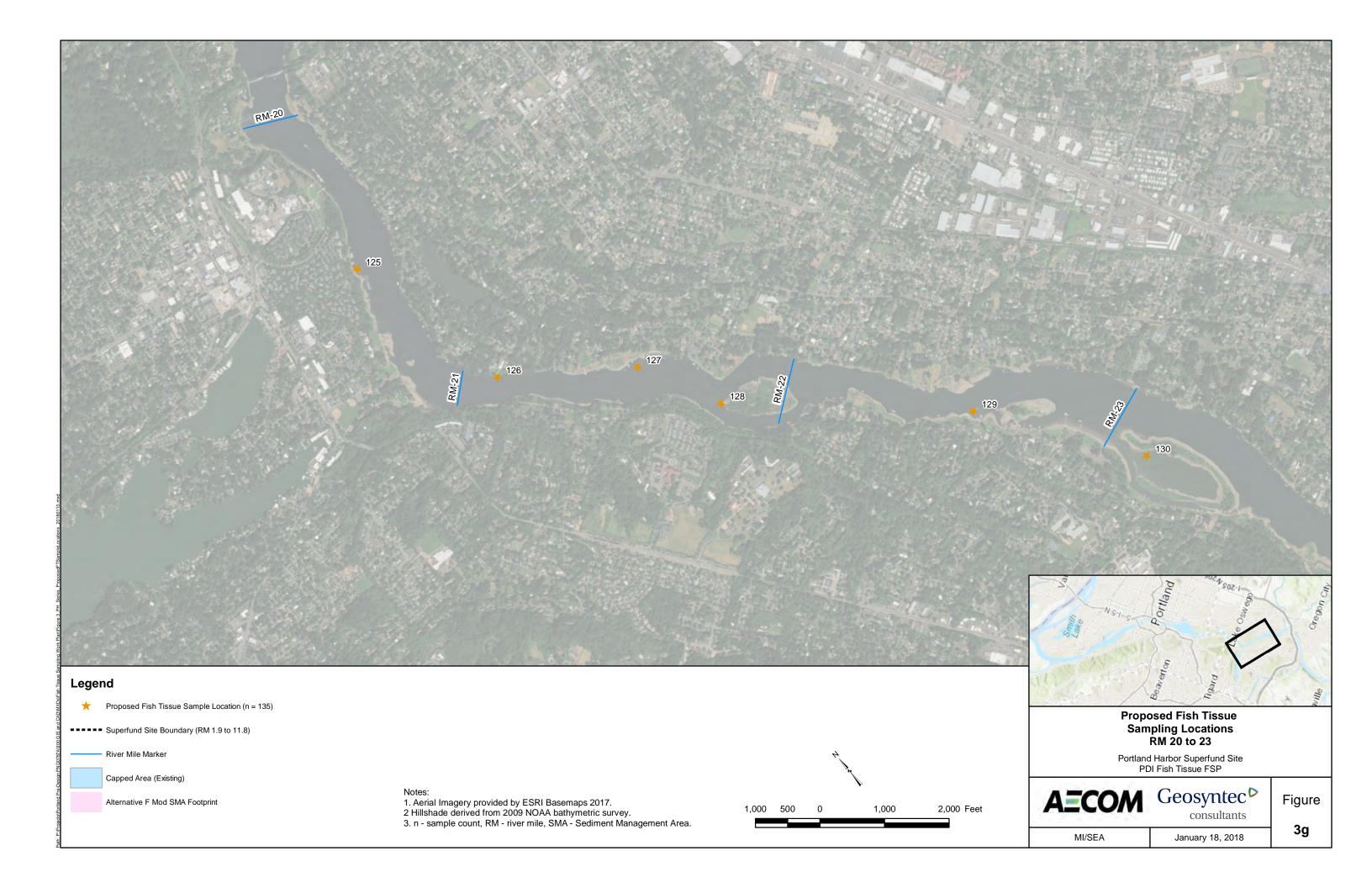


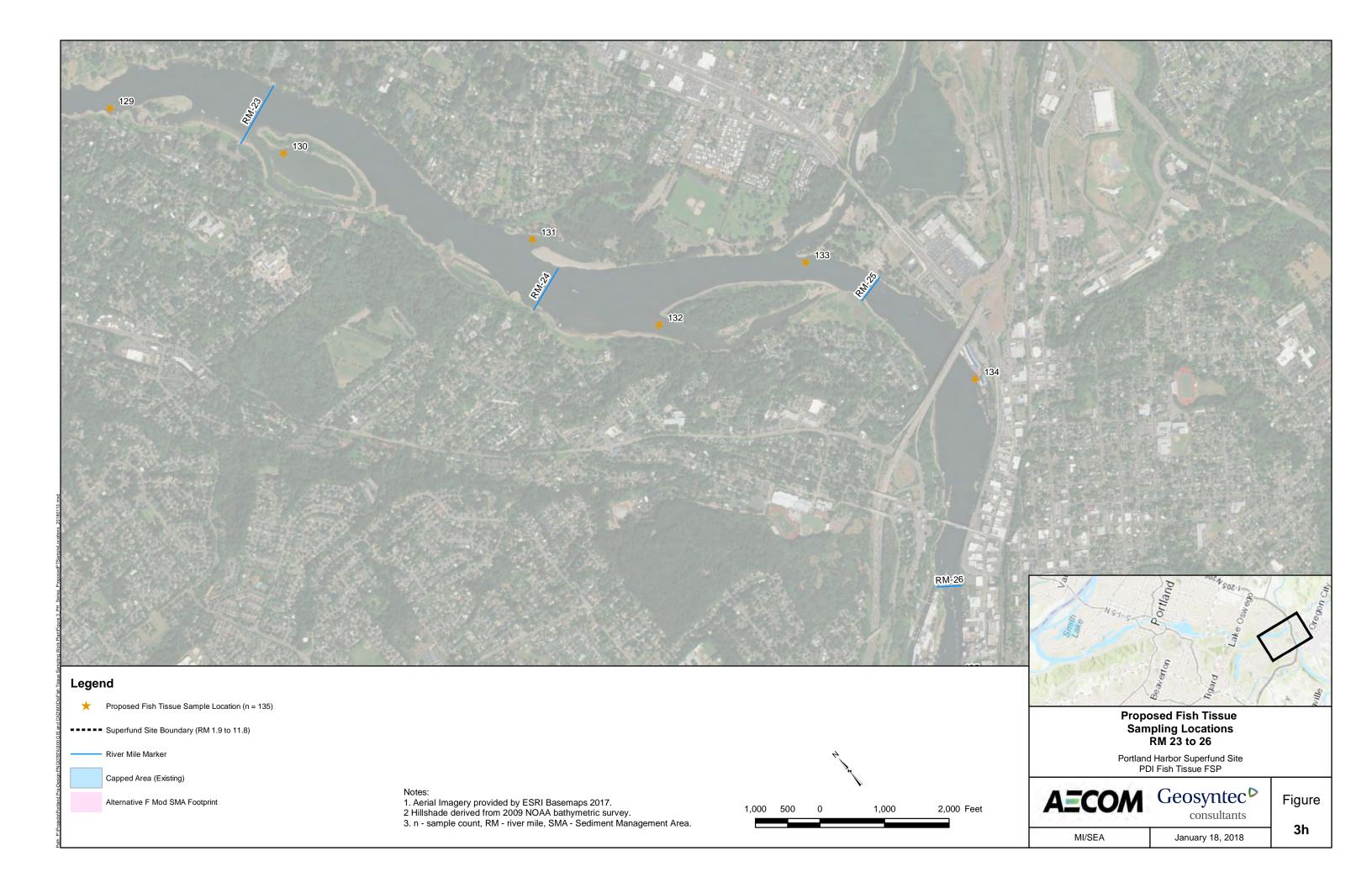


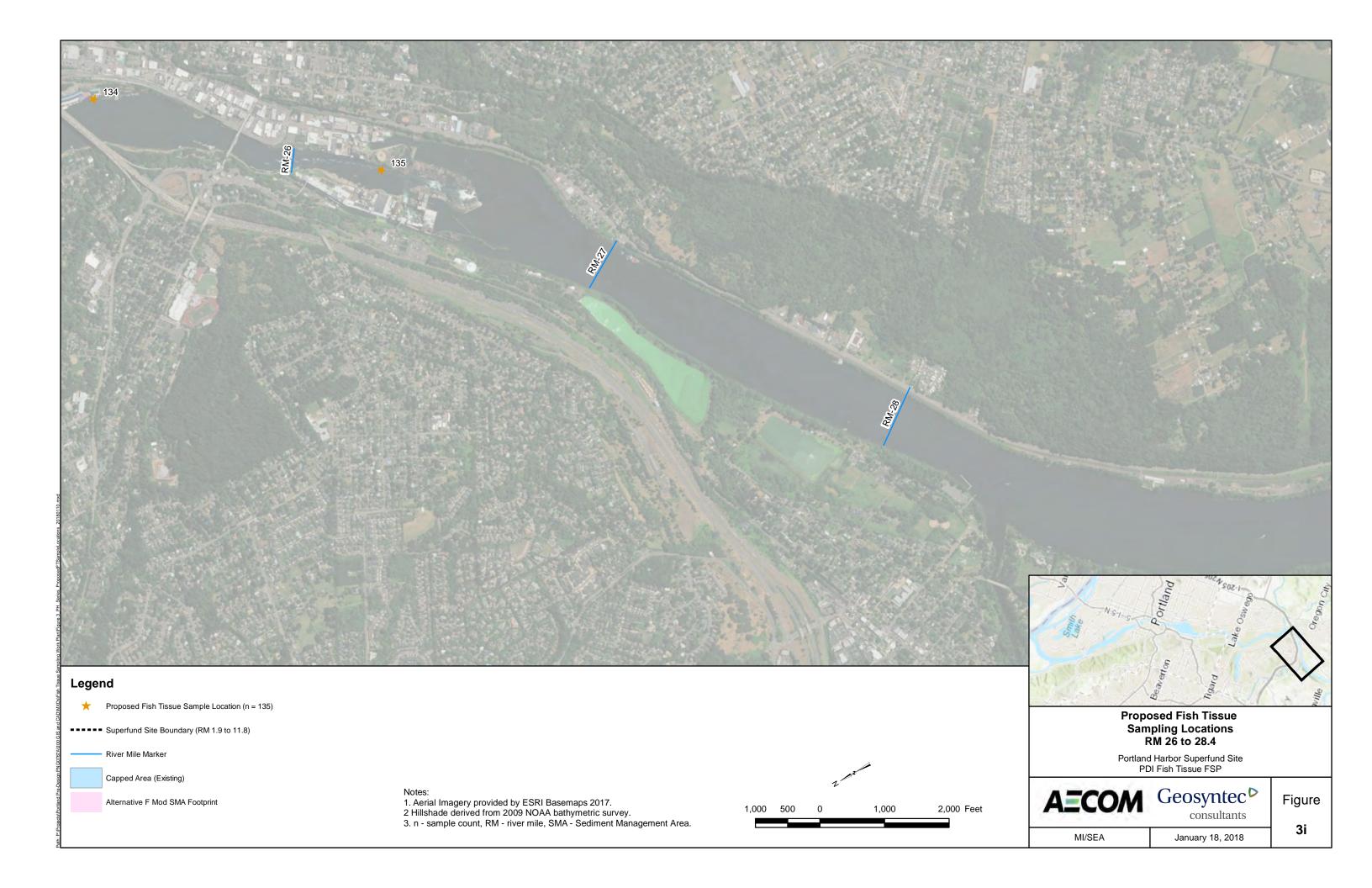












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